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IDF completes Gaza withdrawal

JON IMMANUEL,
 ALON PINKAS,
 and LAMIA LAHOUD

THE IDF completed its withdrawal from the area of Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip before dawn yesterday, but the operation did not go as smoothly as planned.

Hundreds of youths who had been waiting for the troops to leave the governor's mansion in the town center began shouting slogans and throwing stones. Some shouted "Rabin go home" in Hebrew.

Troops fired tear gas to disperse the demonstrators, while Palestinian police who were rushed in fired in the air. Some eyewitnesses said they fired partly to keep order and partly to share in the jubilation that the last soldiers were leaving.

Army sources said the shooting lasted for over 30 minutes. "I think the Palestinian policemen used up all the ammunition they were issued," said one senior officer.

The IDF had previously managed to withdraw peacefully, partly because it successfully avoided revealing which locations it was going to leave when, then left in the middle of the night. In this case, subterfuge was not possible.

OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Doron Almog said the overall evacuation went smoothly, "thanks to the most efficient and professional work of all units involved."

Other installations were evacuated late Tuesday night and very early Wednesday.

"I thank the two sides and wish good luck to both of us. We have a great mission to accomplish," Brig.-Gen. Yomtov Samia, who headed the committee which established the timetable for the transfer, told a group of Israeli and Palestinian generals at the informal dawn handover.

"These are the keys of the last military camp," he told Maj.-Gen. Nasser Yousef.

"I see many happy faces here today. Unfortunately, I'm not happy, but preoccupied with the difficult task in front of us," commented OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnay.

Inside the main Gaza City police



A Palestinian policeman yesterday restrains a Palestinian who was throwing stones at Israeli soldiers departing from their last base in the Gaza Strip. (AP)

station, Palestinian police officers were resting on mattresses and blankets. There are no beds in the station.

"The Israelis took everything when they left. We don't even have chairs to sit on. They cut the electricity and took all the telephones with them," complained the new station chief, Brig.-Gen. Hassan Alnaggar.

He said that his men had already received reports of thefts and been asked to help solve personal disputes. "We don't yet have laws to deal with small crimes and disputes. So we try to mediate between the people," he said.

When asked how the police would deal with the murder of alleged collaborators, Alnaggar said that police met with the leaders of all Palestinian factions to solve the problem. But he added that those who continue to kill collaborators will be arrested.

In front of the post office, municipal workers were waiting in vain for their wages. "No one tells us when we will get our money. I have 12 children to support," said Adim, a street cleaner.

He hoped all the workers would keep their jobs under the new municipal authority. "No work, no peace," he said. The other work-

ers agreed.

Palestinians trying to mail letters were told by the policeman guarding the post office that the PLO decided not to use Israeli stamps, but no new Palestinian stamps are available yet.

Meanwhile, a policeman from the Ein Jalout Brigade was reported killed in a road accident between Gaza City and the Nusseirat refugee camp, doctors in Shifa hospital said. He became the first police fatality since the force entered the Strip last week.

The Palestinian police spokesman could not be reached to confirm the death.

Ben-Porat slams Housing Ministry in annual report

State comptroller submits findings to A-G

EVELYN GORDON

STATE Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat has passed some of her annual report's findings to the attorney-general, so he can decide whether to open criminal investigations, she told the press conference at which the report was officially released yesterday. She declined to specify which findings, however.

The report's most severe findings related to the Housing Ministry, to which Ben-Porat devoted about half of her press conference.

She scored Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer for granting extra development funds to 10 municipalities headed by Labor Party members, while cutting allocations to 12 Likud-run cities.

In light of former housing minister Ariel Sharon's massive budget overruns, she said, the ministry "reached the apparently reasonable conclusion that there was no choice but to reduce its commitments. But, wonder of wonders, there were more elections - the municipal elections."

Thus, apparently in an effort to support Labor's candidates, Ben-Eliezer would promise funds to Labor-run towns "in violation of the law, and at the expense of



State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat (Isaac Harari)

other people who had previously [been promised funds from] the ministry's program," she said.

However, she added, improper administration was evident in many other bodies as well.

Full report
 Pages 9,10,11

She cited the case of stipends paid by the Religious Affairs Ministry to full-time yeshiva students. Many of these supposedly full-time students, she said, were actually working.

There were even two cases where "students" receiving a sti-

pend earned more than NIS 300,000 a year. "This money could have served the state for so many important and more appropriate goals," she said.

Finally, there were numerous cases of political appointments. She cited one in which the assistant to the director-general of the Government Employment Service was actually working three different jobs. If such a man was allowed to keep his job, Ben-Porat said, it was a sign that the government did not truly desire reform.

Beyond the problem of clean government, however, was the huge problem of waste. This was particularly evident in the Housing Ministry, and especially in the Israel Lands Administration, she said.

The ILA's loose system of controls is largely responsible for the chronic problem of high housing costs, and consequent high inflation, she said.

For instance, it gives land to contractors so they can build apartments. But in many cases, the contractors just sit on the land, since their contracts with the ILA do not include details such as when construction must begin and end. There are places where the ILA has allocated land for tens of thousands of units over the last few years, but construction has only started on a few thousand, she said.

Another problem is that thou-

(Continued on Page 2)

Arafat says he meant 'peaceful jihad'

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

YASSER Arafat promised yesterday to crusade for peace and reassured Israel that he had urged Moslems to wage a holy war for Jerusalem only in a religious sense.

"We will continue this peace process insisting that we are rejecting completely...any violence in this long march," Arafat told a news conference during a visit to Oslo to honor Norway's role in brokering the Israel-PLO peace accord.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, waiting in the wings, then entered the news conference, shook Arafat's hand, and sat down beside him.

After hearing Arafat's statement, Peres said: "This was the minimum that I expected to hear. The situation was not simple. This is what was needed, or else, I would not have come."

The foreign minister boycotted an earlier lunch with Arafat, saying he should not attend a joint event until Arafat issued a clarifying statement.

Foreign Ministry officials here

What is 'jihad'?

This is what King Fahd said about jihad in 1980: What is meant by jihad is a united, comprehensive, integrated Arab-Islamic confrontation in which we place all our resources and our spiritual, cultural, political, material and military potential in a long and untiring holy war."

say Arafat's remarks were orchestrated by former US president Jimmy Carter, who had invited both men to help honor Norway's (Continued on Page 2)

Japhet sentenced to 11 months in jail, fined NIS 900,000

EVELYN GORDON

FORMER Bank Leumi chairman Ernst Japhet was sentenced to 11 months in prison and fined NIS 900,000 yesterday - the severest sentence given to any of the bankers found guilty of the stock manipulation leading to the 1983 bank shares collapse.

Japhet was in court to hear his sentence.

The prison term will not begin until after the Supreme Court has ruled on Japhet's appeal, should he decide to file one. Payment of the fine, in monthly installments of NIS 50,000, however, will begin immediately.

Jerusalem District Court Judge Miriam Naor said she made Japhet's sentence harsher than that of the other bankers primarily because of his key role in the banking system.

"Japhet was the leading banker in Israel," she wrote. "This fact, and his position as head of Bank Leumi - the largest bank in the country - requires that his punishment be more severe than those imposed on his right hand man, [Mordechai] Einhorn, and on Raphael Recanat, who headed the Discount Group."

Einhorn and Recanat were each sentenced to eight months in prison and a NIS 600,000 fine.

Naor said she had taken into consideration an argument raised by Japhet's lawyer, Yigal Arnon: that precisely because Japhet was the country's leading banker, he

had suffered the brunt of the public's hatred in the years following the bank shares collapse, and therefore should be treated more leniently now.

While she was willing to accept that Japhet had indeed suffered the most public criticism, Naor said, "There is another factor which needs to be put on the scales... which leads to the conclusion that overall, what has happened [during the past 10 years] is less of a factor [for leniency] in Japhet's case than it was for the other senior bankers."

"The other senior bankers were in the direct shadow of the trial for more than three years. At that time, Japhet was residing abroad, and he did not participate in this trial, which was long and difficult. He didn't sit in the courthouse for days on end as did the other bankers. During the first trial, I saw the suffering which the very fact of the trial and all it entailed caused the other [bankers], even before they were found guilty, and I took this into consideration when fixing their sentences."

Naor said she also acknowledged the tremendous contribution Japhet had made to the state's economy, which had even been cited by fierce adversaries of the manipulation policy. However, she said, these services could not "erase the severity of the crimes of which [Japhet] was convicted."

(Continued on Page 16)

Ben-Eliezer rejects charge of discrimination

HOUSING Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer yesterday rejected the state comptroller's conclusion that he had discriminated against Likud-led local authorities in the allocation of construction funding.

Ben-Eliezer said that a more thorough examination of the settlements in Judea, Samaria and

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Gaza, in which the government had declared a building freeze, would reveal that there was no discrimination.

Ben-Eliezer noted that in addition to helping public institutions affiliated with Labor, he also

helped Beit Jabotinsky, Mizrachi Ariel and other right-wing institutions.

Commenting on the chapter dealing with advisers hired by the ministry, Ben-Eliezer said these advisers advanced many ministry projects, especially in the future city of Modi'in.

Highlights of the state comptroller's report

EVELYN GORDON

OTHER highlights of the state comptroller's report include:

- **Defense:** The air force has failed to close many of the loopholes in its purchasing process which allowed Rami Dotan to steal millions of shekels from weapons contracts. On the home front, security is disorganized and misdirected, with bomb shelters failing to meet the standards required by current missile technology. IDF wire-tapping procedures do not adequately protect privacy.
- **Immigration and absorption:** Conditions at caravan sites are appalling, with serious safety problems and long delays for repairs. The government is vastly overpaying Kupat Holim Clalit for immigrants' health insurance. The Mivtahim pension fund is paying immigrants only a fraction of their pensions, though it receives government funding to cover the whole amount.
- **Health:** Kupat Holim Clalit has failed to resolve its financial problems because it expects the gov-

- ernment to keep bailing it out, and the government has encouraged this behavior by failing to condition financial aid on the implementation of reforms. The quality of much of the country's drinking water is far below Western standards.
- **Economics:** The government overpaid farmers by millions of shekels for damage suffered during the harsh winter of 1991/92. The embarrassing collapse of the sale of Bank Mizrahi could have been prevented had the Bank of Israel checked candidates' qualifications more aggressively.
- **Miscellaneous:** Traffic police file the fewest complaints precisely during the hours when most accidents occur. The government is continuing to give "special allocations" to non-profit organizations, many of which have political affiliations. The Interior Ministry is wasting the population's time by requiring personal appearances for paperwork that could be done by mail. The poor functioning of the embassy in Moscow has severely damaged the country's ties with Russia.

Terrorists wound Netzarim man

HERB KEINON

NETZARIM resident Rami Sarid was shot and wounded on the Gaza City bypass road near his settlement last night in the first terror attack in an autonomous Palestinian region.

The attack occurred in the early evening just east of the Netzarim junction. Sarid's car was passed by a car from which a number of shots were fired. Sarid was hit in the leg, but continued to the junction where he received first aid from an IDF patrol.

The IDF did not chase after the car, which fled into the area of northern Gaza under Palestinian self-rule.

Sarid was taken to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital, where he was listed in fair condition.

Settlement sources said this was the second time this week the IDF allowed Gaza attackers to flee the scene with their weapons. On Monday night, the sources said,

Gaza gunmen fired at the settlement of Morag in Gush Katif. They said IDF soldiers spotted several gunmen hiding in a truck, but did not apprehend them.

Earlier yesterday, a number of shots were fired at workers erecting a fence around a school near Kfar Darom. There were no injuries.

Last night, Netzarim residents blocked the Gaza City bypass road, calling for greater security for their settlement, located in the middle of the autonomous region, just south of Gaza City. They demanded that Palestinian vehicles be kept off the section of road where Sarid was shot.

Meanwhile, Margalit Ruth Shohat, the second victim of Tuesday's terror attack near Hebron, was buried in Kfar Adumim yesterday. Steve Rodan contributed to this report.

Italian gov't wins key confidence vote

ROME (Reuters) - Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's coalition with neo-fascists and federal-

ists won a cliff-hanger vote of confidence in the Senate yesterday, clearing its last significant hurdle to full-fledged government.

The coalition, which has only a relative majority in the 326-member upper house, won with the help of a handful of life senators who voted in favor and rebel centrists who left the assembly before the vote to lower the quorum.



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NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE

Pensions for Widows of Men Killed By Enemy Action in 1948

A recently signed agreement between the NII and the Treasury provides for pensions to be paid to the widows of those who fell in action in 1948, or who were wounded and died later, as a result. The right to a pension will start after April 1, 1994.

These pension rights relate to enemy action, in the period November 29, 1947, to May 13, 1948. The scale of such pensions will be comparable to the pensions payable to widows, under the Enemy Action Pensions Law.

Submission of Claim

Claims for a pension should be submitted through your nearest branch of the National Insurance Institute, on the appropriate form, which is obtainable at any NII branch.

Last date for submitting claims: If the husband died before April 1, 1994 - April 1, 1995. If the husband died after April 1, 1994 - within 12 months of his death.

Information and Public Relation Dept.

הכרזה מן הלאה

Palestinians deny damaging yeshiva in Jericho

HERB KEINON

THE Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee is likely to meet today following allegations that Palestinian police broke into a room belonging to the Jericho yeshiva and ripped a mezuza off the doorpost.

A number of yeshiva supporters, including National Religious Party MK Hanan Porat, rushed to the yeshiva yesterday afternoon after they heard of the incident and met with senior IDF officers.

According to a source close to the issue, it was agreed at the meeting to alter security arrangements at the yeshiva, located at the ancient Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue. The changes, including posting IDF soldiers at the site, are likely to be discussed by the liaison committee. Since Friday, Palestinian policemen have been guarding the site.

Rabbi Mordechai Rabinovitch, the dean of the yeshiva, said that Tuesday night Palestinian police broke a plasterboard wall to get into the storeroom, took the mezuza down, and placed their equipment in the room.

Rabinovitch also said that food crumbs were found on top of a vault, adorned with a velvet cover, that holds the Tora scroll when no

one is at the yeshiva.

Rabinovitch said this was not the first time the Palestinian police used the room, and that on Sunday they also moved equipment into the room. He said that after heads of the yeshiva complained to the IDF, it was agreed that the Palestinians would have no access to areas belonging to the yeshiva.

"This is a clear violation of that agreement, and is also the desecration of a holy place," he said.

Saeb Erekat, an appointed member of the new Palestinian authority, denied that anything was vandalized in the synagogue. The only thing that could be considered amiss was the moving of the mezuza "which had probably been slightly dislodged by the wind."

He said the settlers' behavior was "very provocative" and warned it could lead to "disastrous consequences" if they continued to come armed to the synagogue. He said it was not necessary, since they were protected by Israeli soldiers and Palestinian police. He described those coming to the yeshiva as "hoodlums" who had no real religious feeling.

Jon Immanuel contributed to this report



PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat speaks with reporters in Oslo yesterday to clarify his statements regarding a 'jihad' to liberate Jerusalem. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres joined the news conference after Arafat explained he meant a 'peaceful' holy war. (AP)

(Continued from Page One)

contributions to the Middle East peace process.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Mike McCurry said yesterday the US is "satisfied" with Arafat's explanation of his "jihad" remark.

McCurry added that the US would "also agree" with Peres's assessment that the PLO's adherence to the accord with Israel "will be the measure by which we judge the PLO's commitment to the peace process itself."

"I will continue my jihad until I will be able to see Christians and Muslims... and Jews to pray together in Jerusalem," Arafat told a news conference as Peres sat next to him. "I will continue my jihad to achieve peace."

"Chairman Arafat said in his remarks that he remains committed to the... end of violence and ter-

ARAFAT

ror and war," said Peres.

He told Israel Radio afterwards that Arafat "had to say those things or I wouldn't have come. He's pulled back, he made a mistake, he wants to fix it."

Later, Peres told The Associated Press he would meet privately with Arafat after a dinner hosted by the Norwegian government.

"Yes, we will continue talking," said Peres, refusing to say where. Norwegian Foreign Ministry officials said Arafat was to leave Norway after midnight, while Peres was scheduled to leave today.

Arafat told worshippers at a mosque in Johannesburg, South Africa, last week: "You have to come and to fight and to start a jihad to liberate Jerusalem, the historic shrine."

After a tape of the speech was

played on Israel Radio, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Arafat may have violated the May 4 self-rule accord.

In the agreement, the Palestine Liberation Organization agreed not to use violence or terror, but to negotiate peacefully on the future status of Jerusalem.

"The Palestinian people, and me personally, are committed to follow up the implementation of the DOP through peaceful means," Arafat told the news conference.

Carter, who had helped negotiate peace between Egypt and Israel, said, "Chairman Arafat has made it clear that jihad means a crusade, a deep commitment with one, and he emphasized that he was talking about a jihad for peace."

Hillel Kuttler contributed to this report

PLO security chief: Nobody should be ashamed of calling for jihad to liberate Jerusalem

JON IMMANUEL

JIBRIEL Rajoub, the PLO's security chief, said yesterday that "nobody should be ashamed" of calling for a jihad to liberate Jerusalem, and that he was not surprised PLO leader Yasser Arafat had done so.

"I accept his statement. I see nothing odd about it," he said in an interview.

Rajoub, who arrived from Tunis yesterday to take up his post as "director of preventive security in the West Bank," was greeted by well-wishers all day at a reception near his family home in Dura, close to Hebron.

The 41-year-old security chief was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1970, and released in the 1985 prisoner exchange. He was expelled in 1988, after interrogations by the General Security Service. His two younger brothers were among the 400 Islamic activists exiled to southern Lebanon for one year.

Rajoub's reaction to Arafat's remarks in a Johannesburg mosque differed from those of notable local Palestinian personalities close to Arafat. Dr. Zakaria al-Agha, Fatah council head in Gaza, told Israel



Jibril Rajoub. (Sarit Usieky)

Radio he was "astonished," and would seek clarification. Others were either critical or tried to explain "jihad" as a moral rather than armed struggle.

Banners over the main tent in Dura, where guests sat and drank coffee, read "Jerusalem is the capital of an independent Palestinian state."

Rajoub dismissed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's statements opposing a Palestinian state as "a public relations ploy. He does not believe it from the bottom of his heart." He also said he "cannot conceive of a situation in which settlements remain in the occupied territories."

Rajoub defined his job as maintaining stability and protecting Palestinian property, rather than as organizing a spy network. He said that aside from the liaison committees there would be "no special coordination or security cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian security services. Ignorant people say coordination is necessary for both parties." He predicted there would be no conflict between Arafat's Fatah and Hamas.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian official told Renter yesterday that more than 100 leading members of Fatah would return to Gaza and Jericho beginning next month.

"All 21 members of the decision-making Fatah central committee have unanimously voted in favor of entering the self-rule areas; we have taken the decision of return," a PLO official said. He added that the 111-member Revolutionary Council had also decided to return.

Hebron observers: IDF keeping us under curfew

JON IMMANUEL and ALON PINKAS

THE international observer force in Hebron yesterday complained that the IDF was keeping its 120 members under virtual curfew, despite its mandate to patrol the city.

A delegation which went to the IDF's military headquarters in Hebron yesterday reported that the army was "very reluctant" to let them move about in Hebron during the curfew imposed after the killing of two settlers near Beit Haggai, south of Hebron.

"We got nothing from that meeting," said Bjørn Sørensen, spokesman for the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH).

"They closed the total city because of the killing of two Israelis, but that was outside Hebron. Why should that incident prevent us from moving

around?" said Sørensen.

The IDF said in response yesterday that the "TIPH are free to move in and out of the city."

The army said a pre-notification of the impending curfew was faxed to TIPH headquarters, "as is required from us according to TIPH's mandate." TIPH confirmed receipt of the fax, but protested the scope of the curfew.

In Copenhagen, Danish Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen said Denmark, a participant in the force, was considering lodging an official protest as well.

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natseh accused TIPH of being "ineffective" after the incident Saturday in which settlers and soldiers wounded 15 or more Palestinians after stones were thrown at settlers.

(Continued from Page One)

sands of finished apartments are standing empty because the government hasn't completed the necessary infrastructure work, she added.

"[The government] must pay attention to this report so it won't repeat the same mistakes once again," Ben-Porat said, referring to the current cabinet discussions on how to bring down housing prices.

As another example of waste, Ben-Porat cited the case of the Haifa-Kiryat Motzkin railroad, which cost millions to build.

"[The planners] forgot one minor detail: the stations," she said. "And because there are no stations, [the railroad] is not in operation."

Other problems relating to the Housing Ministry included severe delays in road construction - 75 percent of the projects Ben-Porat investigated were behind schedule, with almost 40 percent taking more than twice as long as planned; the continuation of building in the territories despite the government's decision to stop

BEN-PORAT

it; and the allocation of state-owned rental housing to families who weren't really needy.

The comptroller also said she would publish a special report on the feud between Police Minister Moshe Shahal and former police inspector-general Ya'acov Terner around the end of this month. The feud revolved around Terner's allegations that Shahal had delayed the police investigation of former interior minister Aryeh Dori for political reasons. Ben-Porat said she questioned both Shahal and Terner personally.

In the Knesset state control committee, opposition MKs had a field day with Ben-Porat's report, charging that it is a sad reflection on a coalition which came to power on the promise of good government.

"The last government fell primarily on the issue of honesty and corruption," said Shaul Yabalem (NRP). "People expected this coalition would raise several levels in the area of integrity. The report shows that we were wrong."

Coalition MKs responded by saying they accept the report's findings, and would work to see that the defects are corrected.

Likud calls no-confidence over report

THE Likud has submitted a no-confidence motion against the government as a result of the State Comptroller's report. Faction chairman Moshe Katsav called it "the gravest report since the establishment of Israel."

The Likud's Justice Party has also submitted a no-confidence motion, charging the government with desecrating the Sabbath and Shabbat holiday by evacuating some of its outposts in the Gaza Strip on those days. Dan Izenberg

Christopher meets with Assad, fails to bridge differences

DAMASCUS (AP) - Syria said yesterday that US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's latest Middle East shuttle failed to bridge differences blocking a peace settlement with Israel.

During his five-hour visit to Damascus yesterday, Christopher met with President Hafez Assad on Israel's viewpoints for a settlement.

Syria's presidential spokesman said the talks showed that "the differences remained wide, because the Israeli position was still far from the basis and requirements of the peace process."

The president reiterated Syria's position and its adherence to the basis of the peace process in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions which call on Israel to fully withdraw from territories occupied in 1967, said Assad's spokesman, Jibril Kourieh. Kourieh spoke after Christopher's departure from Damascus for Cairo.

On arrival in the Egyptian capital, Christopher said his talks on the earlier steps in Syria and Is-

rael were "good and useful." "I took today to Syria the responses, ideas from Israel that I had gleaned from my meetings yesterday with the Prime Minister and his top colleagues," Christopher said at a press conference after meeting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"Those ideas are now under consideration in Syria and I'm sure that both of the parties are weighing the various ideas that were passed back and forth in the rather intensive discussions we've had," he added.

But a deal will not come easily, Christopher said. "The questions are exceedingly difficult. The sub-questions are exceedingly difficult and it's a long road ahead. So I wouldn't anticipate that we're coming to a head or reaching a point at which decisive action will be taken in the near future."

Syria's government-owned newspapers said Damascus was looking to hear an Israeli pledge to withdraw completely from the Golan Heights.

Beilin: Israel will have diplomatic ties with Arab states within 5 years

DAN IZENBERG

ISRAEL will be able to make peace and establish diplomatic relations with its neighbors and most of the surrounding Arab countries in less than five years, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin told the Knesset yesterday.

Beilin, however, indicated that although the government is seeking a territorial compromise with Syria on the Golan Heights, including a substantial Israeli withdrawal, it might have to settle for even less in return for peace.

"Our aim is a peace treaty with Syria - if possible, with American help - involving the smallest possible withdrawal from the Golan," said Beilin. "However, at the beginning or in the middle of the negotiations, none of us can know what its final outcome will be. Talks are talks. Each side comes in with its plans, intentions, platforms and concepts and comes out with something that is possibly less than what it was aiming for."

Beilin also reminded the handful of MKs in the chamber that whatever the outcome of the negotiations, the Israeli people would have the last word via a referendum promised by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "I think you should be worried after hearing this," Likud MK Benny Begin, who initiated the Knesset debate, shouted to Labor hawk Emanuel Zissman. "I am," Zissman replied.

Radicals refuse to disarm, warn Palestinian police

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Radical Palestinian groups opposed to the PLO-Israeli peace deal said yesterday they would not surrender their weapons to the new Palestinian self-rule authorities in Gaza and Jericho.

Spokesmen for a 10-member alliance rejected a call by the Palestinian authorities in Gaza and Jericho urging Palestinians to hand over their weapons and warned Palestinian police not to press their demand.

Abu Mohammed Mustafa, Damascus representative of Hamas, said the Palestinian Police should disarm Israeli settlers and soldiers first.

"We totally reject the disarming of our Palestinian people because occupation is still continuing in our lands and the settlers and Israeli soldiers are surrounding us

from everywhere. We need to defend ourselves," Mustafa added.

"Without these weapons and these heroic resistance operations the Israelis would not have left Gaza and Jericho. If there are people who should be disarmed it should be the Israelis who are occupying our lands," he said.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) led by George Habbash said: "Our men will not hand over their weapons as long as there is one Israeli soldier or a settler in the West Bank and Gaza."

A spokesman for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) led by Nayef Hawatmeh said any settlers or Israeli soldiers who showed up in Gaza and Jericho would be attacked.

Settlers: Stolen car found with Palestinian policeman inside

HERB KEINON

THIEVES entered the settlement of Eilei Sinai in the northern Gaza District Monday night and stole a car, found a few hours later in Gaza City with a Palestinian policeman one of four people inside, according to Zvi Hendel, head of the Gaza Coast Regional Council.

Hendel reported this to visiting Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur, to illustrate his claim that a link exists between the Palestinian police and various criminals and terrorists in the area.

Yehuda Hirsch, the owner of the car, said the thieves entered the settlement by cutting a section of the fence surrounding it.

"It is very frightening to think they were able to get all the way up to my house, and that this happened as the IDF was stepping up patrols in the area," Hirsch said.

"Thank God they were only interested in a car."

Hirsch said that although the IDF had fixed the fence and added additional patrols within a day, his fears were not allayed. "The army always acts after there is some kind of incident," Hirsch said.

"They need to act before something happens."

Police in the Shimon Region would not comment on the matter. Itm reported that the Palestinian police said its policeman inside the car was trying to return the vehicle to its owner.

The residents told Gur they wanted the government to erect an electric fence around the three settlements in the area - Eilei Sinai, Nissana and Dugit - similar to the fence being constructed around the Gaza District. Gur, according to Hirsch, said he would look into the matter.

ARRIVALS

For the annual meeting of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University:

From Argentina: Mr. & Mrs. Carlos Jaeger. From Brazil: Mrs. Sufrin Perelman. From France: Mrs. Aliza Leibovitch, Danielle Scheinman, Ms. Zelman Weinberg. From Italy: Arturo Schwarz, for the opening of an exhibition by Marcel Duchamp. From Mexico: Carlos Hernandez Alcala, Marcos Maus, for the inauguration of the Marcos, Colla, Teodoro, and Josefa Maus Multipurpose Computer Laboratory, and for the awarding of the Colla and Marcos Maus Annual Prize in Computer Sciences. From Switzerland: Samuel Willer. From the UK: Mrs. Renee Behrman, Mr. & Mrs. Philip Murray, Mrs. & Mrs. David Walton, Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Wolfson. From the US: Ms. Andrey Heckler, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Israeli, Ms. Joan Lessing, Mrs. Jules Love, executive vice-president of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University, Mrs. Rosalie Lurie, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Niznick, for the inauguration ceremony of the Gerald A. Niznick Chair of Implant Dentistry. Dr. Evelyn Royal, Mrs. Tamar Rudich, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Smay, Dr. Baruch Teichman. From Venezuela: Mr. & Mrs. Alberto Cohen, Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Steyer (H.D.), for the inauguration of the Stanley Steyer Institute for Cancer Epidemiology and Research.



Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem mourns the passing of

BOLEK ISRALEWICZ

Frankfurt

a devoted and generous friend of our medical center, and a major benefactor of many Israeli causes.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to his wife, Sofia, children, and their families.

With deep sorrow we announce the death of

MIRIAM COHEN ז"ל

widow of the late Solomon B. Cohen

The funeral will take place today, May 19, 1994 at 6:30 p.m. at Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem, 1 1/2 hours after the arrival of El Al flight 008.

Her sons: Yehuda, Erwin and David
Brothers: Samuel H. Platt and Harold (Zvi) Platt
Sister: Chani Silberberg
Grandchildren and great-grandchildren in Israel and the U.S.A.

On the shloshim after the passing of

HAVA HUTNIK

a service will be held tomorrow, May 20, 1994, at 3:00 p.m. at the Yarkon cemetery.

We sincerely thank all who comforted us.

Yochle and Solly Davidowitz
Nurit Hod

We are deeply shocked by the murder of

MARGREET (Margalit) SHOHAT

and express our profound condolences to the family.

Irgun Oie! Holfand
Beth Juliana, Herzliya

With sorrow, we announce that our wife, mother, grandmother, sister

GRACE FERGUSON

has passed away.

The funeral will leave from the home of the deceased, tomorrow, Friday, May 20, at 11 a.m., for the Beit Yanai (Kfar Vitkin) cemetery.

The Family

Israel Airports Authority

Egyptian Frontier Crossing Points

Notice to the Public

Because of a Moslem religious festival, the frontier crossing points at Rafiah, Nitzana and Taba will be closed from midnight on Friday, May 20, and will reopen at midnight on Saturday, May 21.

Spokesman's and Public Relations Bureau
Israel Airports Authority

Rabin okays gov't participation in investment for railway infrastructure

SYBIL EHRLICH

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday adopted Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar's proposal for government participation in investment in railway infrastructure, in particular for the Tel Aviv and Haifa metropolitan areas.

In a meeting with Kessar and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Rabin announced that government investment in railways will be the first subject on the cabinet's agenda in its discussions of next year's state budget, which will take place in another month and a half.

Kessar asked for NIS 300 million a year for five years from the Treasury, and the same amount from the Ports and Railways Authority, so the total available for development will be NIS 3b.

The government must change its conception of railways and great railway infrastructure in exactly the same way as road infrastructure.

"If we don't wake up in time, in a short while we'll find ourselves facing a transport catastrophe. The only solution is a railway system which will be an alternative to the roads. All over the world passenger railways are enjoying a renaissance, and there is no reason why the same should not be true here. The greatest experts in the world have concluded that railways are almost the only solution to problems of congestion in large cities."

"I have nothing against railways," Shohat said, "but I am not wild about them. The Treasury is willing to invest in railway infrastructure in accordance with government priorities."

Rabin said it is possible to find sources of funding for the project that will not be a drain on the government's budget. He noted loans can be obtained for up to 30 years on easy terms, and this possibility should also be considered.



Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein and ministry Director-General Shimon Shohat examine a document relating to special education. Rubinstein told a press conference in Tel Aviv yesterday that in an effort to integrate children with disabilities in regular classrooms, the number of children sent to special education classes is to be cut by a third next year.

(Alan Orendreiter / Israel Sun)

Jordanians to attend Tel Aviv tourism conference

EIGHT Jordanian travel agents and hoteliers are to take part in a tourism conference due to be held in Tel Aviv next month.

The Jordanians yesterday sent a fax to the organizers of the International Mediterranean Peace Tourism Market (IMPMT) telling of their impending arrival.

HAIM SHAPIRO

The fair, set up by Israel Travel News, which publishes tourism material, and Arta, a conference organizer, is to be held at the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds June 13-16.

Participants from Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta, China, Roma-

nia, and Egypt are also expected.

In a related development, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said that a 15 percent decrease in tourism is expected this month and next, in comparison with the same period last year. Baram said that the figures reflected a reaction to the Hebron massacre.

Environment Ministry rejects report on radiation in Haifa

LIAT COLLINS

THE Environment Ministry official in charge of radiation, Dr. Ehud Ne'eman, yesterday refused to endorse the findings of a committee which examined the radiation levels from Army Radio transmitters in Haifa.

The committee was appointed by the defense minister in August to determine the effects of the electromagnetic radiation from the transmitters on the population of the nearby Abuza neighborhood.

According to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, the report does not offer an unequivocal stand on the subject and failed to determine whether the transmitters should be allowed to stay in place. He said the committee had

not heard enough expert testimony on the issue of non-ionizing radiation and its long-term effects.

Ne'eman said there was no short-term danger but suggested decreasing the power of the transmitters. The committee's findings raised doubts as to possible adverse effects on the Ramat Golda neighborhood under construction next to the station.

Sarid stressed that experts around the world are still debating the possible effects on health from electromagnetic radiation from radio stations. The ministry, together with Bezak, is currently completing a nationwide check on the level of radiation from radio transmitters.

Pharmacists intensify strike

THE pharmacists in the public sector are intensifying their strike, to protest the fact that the Treasury has not attempted to negotiate with them since Sunday.

The strikers will no longer supply contrast media needed to conduct various lab tests and scans, including x-rays, mammography, and CT scans. The Pharmacists Association stressed, however, that in cases where a life is at stake, tests will be done, and that staffers dealing with emergency surgery, dialysis, neonates and intensive care will carry on as usual.

Several private pharmacies have closed down because the public has emptied them of drugs. In Rahat, Kiryat Shmona, and Mitzpe Ramon, the towns' only drug stores have closed.

(Itim)

Health Ministry official elected to senior WHO post

JUDY SIEGEL

A HEALTH Ministry deputy director-general has been elected first vice chairman of the World Health Organization executive - the highest UN post ever filled by an Israeli.

Prima Herzog, the ministry's official in charge of international relations, will serve in the post for three years and fill in for the chairman, Dr. Koumte of Mexico, during his absence. She was elected at the WHO assembly meetings in Geneva last week.

Herzog, a pharmacist by training and long-time Health Ministry official, will serve on the WHO's program development and management committee and administrative budget and finance committee. Israel is a member of the European region of the WHO.

As in the past, the WHO assembly passed resolutions that criticized Israel; but this time an Israeli-Palestinian committee prepared wording that was acceptable to both sides. The Syrians added mention of "the occupied Golan and the Arab Syrian population"; this version was approved. Israel, the US, Australia, Norway, Hungary and Greece voiced their satisfaction with the resolutions on health, but expressed objections to the political references.

Chief rabbis did not defy High Court, state insists

EVELYN GORDON

IT is not true that the chief rabbis, in defiance of a High Court ruling, told the rabbinical courts to disregard civil law in divorce settlements, the state told the High Court yesterday.

It was responding to a petition by Tel Aviv lawyers Amnon Ben-Dror and Liron Friedlander and the Association for Freedom from Religious Coercion. The petition asked the court to force Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau and Eliahu Bakshi-Doron to heed its February ruling that rabbinical courts must use civil rather than religious law in deciding divorce cases. Lau and Bakshi-Doron had allegedly ordered the rabbinical courts to ignore the ruling.

Civil law mandates a 50-50 property split, while religious law determines the issue by whose name the property is registered. In an affidavit, Rabbi Raphael Frank, who runs Lau's office, emphatically denied that Lau and Bakshi-Doron had ever issued such an instruction.

The only decision made during the meeting, which the order was allegedly given, he said, was to set up a team to study how the court's ruling could be resolved with Halacha. He attached the meeting's summary as proof.

Furthermore, Frank said, in the case which served as the basis for the High Court ruling, the chief rabbis returned the case to the rabbinical courts for rehearing on the basis of a civil law property division.

Even the newspaper article on which the petition was based, Frank noted, quoted Prof. Ariel Rosen-Zvi, who participated in the meeting, as saying: "I had the impression that the rabbinical courts... do not intend to work against the ruling."

Had the petitioners made the effort to ask any of the relevant authorities, instead of relying on newspaper reports, they would have known this, Frank said.

The state therefore asked the court to reject the petition.

Chinese journalists learn about democracy, Israel style

LIAT COLLINS

SENIOR Chinese editors on a 10-day tour, learned lessons in democracy, Israel-style yesterday, during a tour of the Knesset.

"It's a little confusing," admitted one as he left the journalists' gallery of the mainly empty Knesset plenum.

The journalists, guests of the Israel Periodicals Association and the Government Press Office, met with MK Avigdor Kahalani and found it difficult to understand that although he is a member of the coalition in power, the former brigadier-general heads the lobby against withdrawal from the Golan.

The director of the delegation, You Lin, editor-in-chief of *Qushi*, the journal of the Communist party and a councillor in the National People's Congress said he saw some similarities in the work of the two governments. "But also many differences. It is impossible to have direct elections in a country of more than a billion citizens," You noted after hearing an explanation of the primary election system.

Because of the size of the congress, it only holds sessions 10 days a year, and the rest of the work is carried out by committees, You said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pupil killed in motorcycle accident

A Hod Hasharon high-school pupil died yesterday after suffering serious injuries in a motorcycle accident.

At about 1:30 a.m., Avraham Aharon, 17, lost control of the motorcycle he was riding while making a left turn, crashing into a utility pole. Police said he was not licensed to drive the vehicle, which did not belong to him.

IDF target of Lebanon roadside bombs

One soldier was lightly wounded yesterday, when a roadside bomb exploded near an IDF patrol in the Jezzine region of the security zone in southern Lebanon. In a second, similar attack, there were no injuries.

In response, the IDF shelled terrorist targets north of the security zone.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, ace of hearts, queen of diamonds and 10 of clubs.

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White House wants to know if president can be sued

WASHINGTON (AP) - The White House has asked the Justice Department to determine whether President Clinton can be sued for allegations that occurred before he took office.

The question could be the crux of Clinton's defense of a sexual harassment suit filed by a former Arkansas employee.

The president's private attorney, Robert Bennett, has indicated he will try to block Paula Jones' lawsuit by arguing that a president should not be distracted while in office by private legal action.

Administration officials insisted

the request was not a conflict of interest, even though Justice may be in effect - doing legal legwork for Clinton's private attorney. They said the question is important to the institution of the presidency, not just to the current president.

"This is done in connection with the institutional role of the president and the needs and the history of the office," Justice Department spokesman Carl Stern said yesterday.

He said White House counsel Lloyd Cutler made the request. The White House did not ask

the Justice Department to do personal lawyering for Bill Clinton," Stern said.

He said he was not sure if the Justice opinion would be made public or shared with Bennett. "That's up to the client," he said, referring to the White House. "I assume that everyone has an interest in knowing the answer to that question."

White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said the information would be made available to Bennett. "Why would they keep it secret?" she said.

Myers said the question is im-

portant because Clinton is being sued as president, even though the alleged harassment occurred while he was governor of Arkansas.

"He is the president of the United States. Everything that happens to him effects his capacity as president of United States, regardless," she said.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1982 that presidents cannot be sued in office or after leaving office for official acts as president.

Stern said the question now is not whether Clinton can be sued; the question is when can he be sued: Is Jones required to wait until he is no longer in office?

Paulagate: Media see two sides, two spins to Paula Jones story

PAULA Corbin Jones, America's newest media celebrity, is being simultaneously praised and pilloried by the press.

One account, in the *New York Daily News*: "Her family found itself destitute after her fire-and-brimstone preacher-father died. And since high school, she has fought to escape the yoke of poverty."

A less sympathetic piece, in *Newsweek*, quotes Jones' brother-in-law: "Paula's always loved money... Promiscuity? Good gosh. ... I've seen her at the Red Lobster pinch men on the ass."

Not since Patricia Bowman accused William Kennedy Smith of rape has a woman burst upon the national stage to such dramatically different reviews. Jones' sexual harassment suit against President Clinton has turned the media world on its head, with many conservatives who disdained Anita Hill rushing to Jones' defense and some liberals disparaging her as the Tonya Harding of Little Rock.

"Obviously there's a class angle to this," says Stephen Hess, a Brookings Institution analyst. "Journalists feel more comfortable in defense of someone who went to Yale Law School than someone who never went to college. We should all get out our dictionaries and look up 'petard' because we're all going to be hoisted by our own."

From the White House correspondents to the columnists, from the Sunday morning pontificators to the radio talkmeisters, the Paula Jones story is everywhere, and everyone seems to have an opinion, a take, an argument about who is telling the truth. Increasingly strange bedfellows emerge with each day's headlines.

The hall-of-mirrors effect is so pronounced that Gennifer Flowers, once the symbol of tabloid trash, has been used as a character witness for Clinton. ("It's not like Bill to pull down his pants," Flowers told *Daily News* gossip columnist Linda Stasi. "He simply wouldn't have done it.")

And Sen. Bob Packwood, the subject of 18 months of sexual-harassment stories, gets to wax indignant about a "double standard" on "This Week With David Brinkley."

More than two years after the Flowers epi-

sode caused endless hand-wringing in the press, most journalists have rushed past the should-we/shouldn't-we stage and plunged into the murky waters of Paulagate.

To be sure, conservative activists initially accused the mainstream media of bias for ignoring or minimizing Jones' allegation that Clinton pressed her for oral sex in a Little Rock hotel room in 1991. But once the former Arkansas clerical worker filed her suit, the floodgates were open. The press now had an official legal proceeding to justify covering what political Washington had been whispering about for weeks.

"Where you had a public policy element of sexual harassment, I just didn't see that it was a difficult decision," says Matthew Storr, editor of the *Boston Globe*. "The guiding principle in my mind was we must treat this in some manner of proportion to the way we treated the Anita Hill charges."

The *Globe* also ran a Page 1 box asking readers whether Jones' charges are an important public issue - and got triple the usual number of calls, with two out of three readers saying no.

Some news outlets, not surprisingly, played up the racier aspects of the story. Other reporters took the high road - if such a route can be said to exist - by assessing the political, legal and social fallout. "Harassment case may dog Clinton in '96," a front-page *Los Angeles Times* story warned. "Strategies gauged in harassment suit," said the *Globe's* Page 1 report. The *Wall Street Journal* examined how conservative activists recruited Jones' attorneys.

US News & World Report explored how "the president hopes to discredit conservative activists who are bent on bringing him down."

The Op-Ed pages were quickly consumed by the kind of ideological and cultural debate that last swept the country during Clarence Thomas' Supreme Court nomination. Conservatives argue that since the media made a huge deal about Anita Hill's harassment charges against Thomas, they have an obligation to

report Paula Jones' allegations with equal fervor. Liberal writers, forced on the defensive, have responded by highlighting the differences between the two cases.

On the right: *New York Post* columnist Ray Kerrison says that "in one shot, [Jones] has blown the radical feminist movement to smithereens, exposing it for its hypocrisy."

On the left: *New York Times* columnist Anna Quindlen says it is "ridiculous and condescending" to argue "that feminists should embrace Ms. Jones unquestioningly... Each instance of sexual harassment has to be judged on its own merits."

On the right: Talk show host Mary McCormack says liberals don't want to hear sexual harassment charges from "a woman who has big hair and only made \$10,000 a year and has an accent."

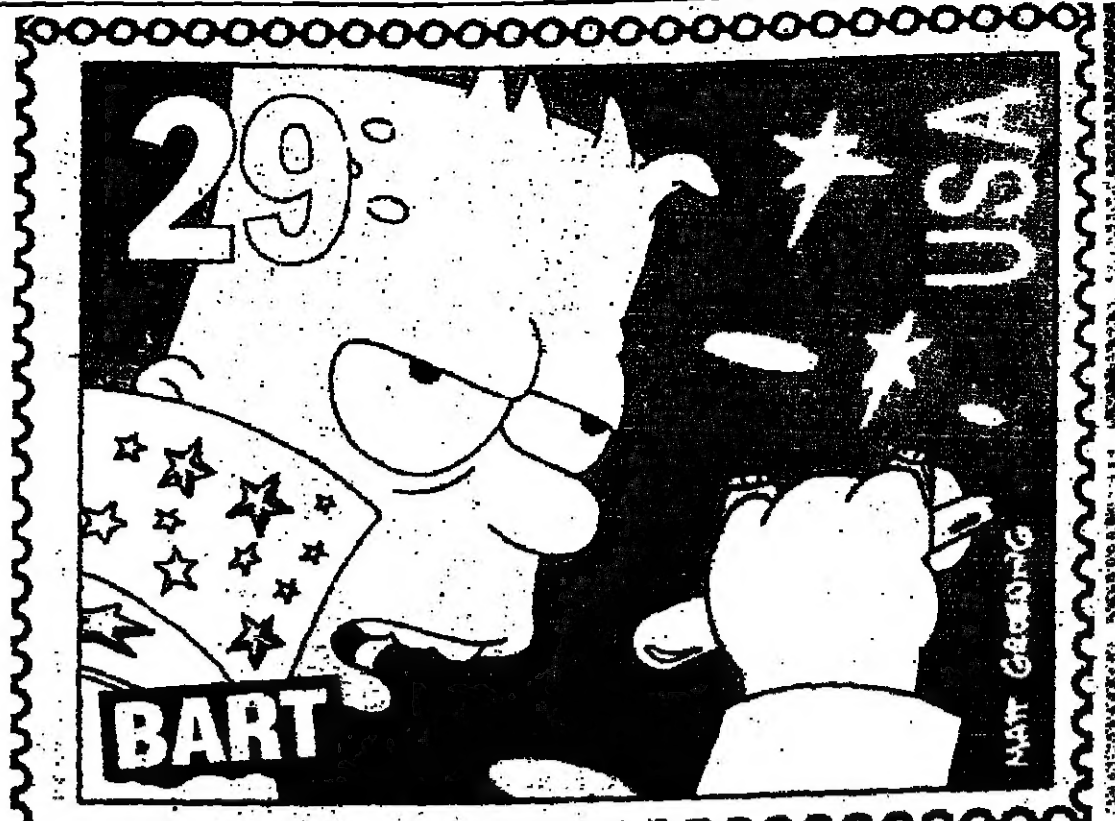
On the left: Ellen Goodman says "this accusation of a double standard comes largely from the very people who regarded Anita Hill as a dastardly liar but find Paula Jones a pure truth-seeker... You don't have to check your skepticism at the door of feminism any more than you have to check your bra."

One conservative journalist who says he is "not convinced" by Jones is David Brock, who savaged Hill in his book *The Real Anita Hill*. It was Brock's *American Spectator* piece on what was dubbed "Troopergate" that angered Jones into going public.

Brock quoted Arkansas state trooper Danny Ferguson as saying he had invited Jones (identified only as "Paula") to Clinton's hotel room, and that when she emerged she said she was willing to be Clinton's regular girlfriend. Ferguson gave a similar account to the *Los Angeles Times*. "The statement by Ferguson appears to be flatly inconsistent with her story," Brock says.

"I don't think her charges should be accepted at face value. She's meeting with a lot of skepticism. It's too bad that Anita Hill wasn't greeted in the same way."

The Washington Post



The US Postal Service has rejected Fox Broadcasting Co.'s suggestion for a stamp featuring cartoon character Bart Simpson crooning in glitzy Elvis Presley-style garb. Another suggested stamp showed Bart posed in front of a chalkboard that reads "I will not waste chalk." "It would be like a commercial endorsement," the Postal Service spokeswoman said. The Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, a panel which advises the postmaster on appropriate stamp subjects, considers about 40,000 suggestions a year. (AP)

Billy Graham denies 'satanic Jews' story

EMILY TORGAN and news agencies

NEW YORK

THE Rev. Billy Graham denies ever telling former president Richard Nixon that there are satanic Jews, and said that in fact many of his best friends are Jewish.

Graham's confession was prompted by an excerpt from the diaries of H.R. Haldeman, Nixon's chief-of-staff at the White House.

In the entry from February 1, 1972, Haldeman wrote that Graham "has the strong feeling that the Bible says there are satanic Jews and that's where our problem arises."

Graham issued a statement saying that Haldeman's words had been wrongly attributed to him and that the quote "goes against all that I believe about Jewish people."

"Those are not my words and this does not reflect the high view I hold for the Nation of Israel and for Jewish people... many of whom are my close friends."

"I do not recall such a meeting or conversation. I have, nevertheless, talked publicly or privately about the Jewish people, including conversations with President Nixon, except in the most positive terms."

In his diary entry for February 26, 1970, Haldeman reported that Nixon "really raged again today against United States Jews because of their behavior" against visiting French president Georges Pompidou.

US Jews held demonstrations against the sale by France of fighter aircraft to Libya. "Has decided to postpone Jewish arms supply for their 'unconscious conduct,'" Haldeman wrote.

A few days later when Nixon attended a dinner for Pompidou in New York, Haldeman wrote that Nixon "went into quite a harangue at the hotel about the miserable city of New York."

Haldeman added that there were "lots of Jewish demonstrators chanting a block away. Got P (Nixon) going again against Jews attitude."

According to Haldeman's writings, Nixon gave him the following instructions in front of former secretary of state Henry Kissinger, who is Jewish: "Not to let any Jews see him about Middle East. Said they can go talk to Lindsay and Rockefeller about whether

THEY can provide arms for Israel."

Former New York City mayor John Lindsay and then-governor of New York Nelson Rockefeller had both refused to attend Pompidou's dinner in New York.

"As mad as he's been since we got here," were Haldeman's notes on the Nixon's feeling about the politicians' reactions.

John Taylor, director of The Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, issued a statement yesterday saying:

"Presidents of the United States are also politicians, and even statement President Nixon made about Jews should be viewed in a political context. He received 61 percent of the Jewish vote in the 1968 election, and polls showed that Jews by and large did not support his policies in Vietnam, the most contentious and difficult issue of his presidency. If Ukrainians, Italians or Poles, for instance, had also failed as blocs to support him and offered him no apparent opportunity to earn their support, he would have spoken with equal frustration about them."

Italy knew of wanted Nazi Priebke in 1989

ROME (Reuters) - Italy knew nearly five years ago that former SS captain Erich Priebke, whose extradition Rome has just sought for war crimes, was living in Argentina, a French Nazi-hunter said yesterday.

Lawyer Arno Klarsfeld, who handed over documents concerning Priebke's World War II record

to Italian Justice Minister Alfredo Biondi, said his father, Serge, had first written to Italian authorities in August 1989 saying he knew he was alive.

"We never received an answer and so we supposed that they were not interested," Klarsfeld said.

A Justice Ministry statement said an investigation had been

launched in 1989.

Priebke, 81, is under house arrest in Argentina pending a ruling on whether he should be sent to Italy to be tried for the 1944 killing of 335 people in the Ardeatine Caves outside Rome.

Klarsfeld, who represented civil plaintiffs at last month's trial of French wartime collaborator Paul

Touvier, is the son of Nazi-hunter Serge and Beate Klarsfeld.

He called on Italy's new government, which includes neo-fascists, to do its utmost to obtain Priebke's extradition.

"This will be a test for Italy. We shall see if it puts all its weight behind the extradition," Klarsfeld told reporters.

Nixon left most of estate to his library

HACKENSACK, N.J. (AP) - Former President Richard Nixon left nearly all his possessions and those of his late wife to his library, with personal diaries going to his two daughters.

Had Julie Nixon Eisenhower and Patricia Nixon Cox not survived him, the former president instructed that the diaries be destroyed. The will said "diaries" could include tape recordings.

The will doesn't restrict what the daughters can do with the diaries, which are to be turned over to the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace if the daughters decide not to take them.

The former president gave \$50,000 to each of his four grandchildren. Three of the grandchildren also get amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$70,000 to "equalize" past gifts.

Nixon died April 22 at age 81. He signed his will February 24, eight months after the death of his wife, Pat. Filed May 11 in Bergen County's Surrogate Court and reviewed Tuesday by The Associated Press, the 18-page will gave no estimate of the worth of his estate.

The will gives Nixon's daughters first claim to his personal property but said they can't take more than 3 percent of the total value. It

mentions, however, that if his \$1.2 million pledge to his library, made last year, is not completely paid yet, the balance should be paid before other disbursements from the estate.

The nation's 37th president became the first to resign, driven from office on August 9, 1974, by the Watergate scandal. The only reference to the scandal in the will involves his legal effort seeking return of documents and tapes seized in the Watergate investigations.

Nixon said in the will that any "windfall" from the lawsuit should go to charity after legal costs.

Children plot revenge with sex-abuse claims

CHICAGO (AP) - When 11 fourth-graders accused their substitute teacher of molesting them, authorities were ready to believe them. Even the teacher agreed that children so young rarely lie about such things.

This time, they did lie - prodced, police say, by a classmate who had offered them \$1 apiece to accuse the teacher falsely.

"What's so scary - and so sad - is that you've got nine-year-old kids sophisticated enough to know they can get a teacher by saying he

fondled them," Chicago Teachers Union spokeswoman Jackie Gallagher said.

"You just don't want to think that our little kids who you're still reading nursery rhymes to are figuring they're going to stick it to their teacher."

Albert Thompson told police his class at Fuller Elementary School on Chicago's South Side became unruly during his May 9 assignment. He said some children ran out of the classroom, and he had to stand by the door to keep others

inside.

When Thompson threatened to report their misbehavior, a nine-year-old girl offered to pay 10 classmates - nine girls and a boy - \$1 each if they joined her in claiming that Thompson fondled them, police said.

Thompson, 43, never was charged. Police cleared him after some of the children made inconsistent statements and one admitted they had made up the story to get him in trouble. The nine-year-old also recanted, police said.

But he hasn't gotten another teaching assignment.

"We're in a society where you're guilty until proven innocent," Thompson said Tuesday. Political correctness and children's rights "overrode my rights," he said.

The district still must review the police report before giving Thompson more teaching assignments, said schools spokesman Dawn Simmons.

Learning Hebrew?



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201 verbs fully conjugated in all tenses, clearly presented in table format. Also included are introductions explaining the Hebrew verb-system. Lists of additional Hebrew verbs under every past tense, and a Hebrew-English, English-Hebrew verb index. A complete conjugation table. By Abraham S. Hertz, Schreiber, 425 pp.

JP Price: NIS 59.00

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by Dr. Eliezer Tirkel and Hanna Mascher. Formerly titled, Everything You Want to Know About Hebrew Verbs And More... Contains an extensive glossary of English verbs with Hebrew translation, in-depth tables for each verb "family," an index of Hebrew verb roots and also Hebrew verb conjugation tables. Schreiber 456 pp.

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Diana hits Charles in the wallet

LONDON (Reuters) - A £160,000 (\$240,700) bill for Princess Diana's designer outfits and beauty therapies has angered Prince Charles, British media reported yesterday.

Television and newspaper reports said Prince Charles was "furious" that his estranged wife's shopping bill, detailed in the annual accounts of the prince's Duchy of Cornwall estate, reached £3,000 (\$4,514) a week.

The Duchy's accounts for the financial year to end-March 1994 said Diana spent £91,330 (\$137,400) on clothes, £9,330 (\$14,070) on her hair, £22,214 (\$33,420) on beauty treatments and £7,306 (\$10,990) on alternative therapy.

The *Daily Mail* quoted a friend of Charles, heir to the British throne, as saying that the prince was scornful of Diana's lavish spending and could not understand how it could be so high.

The 45-year-old prince was visiting St. Petersburg yesterday, where an aide told Press Association, Britain's national news agency, that the expenses were "a private matter."

"She is a wealthy woman in her own right and the prince does not conduct his business through the columns of newspapers," said the prince's aide, who was not identified.

The British media have reported the affair as a new battle in the war between the prince and princess to portray themselves in a favorable light, a campaign both sides have officially denied.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

Inauguration of the Gerald A. Niznick Chair in Implant Dentistry

Lecture Prof. Haim Tal Head, School of Dental Medicine Bone Again and Dental Implants: The Age of Regeneration in Dental Medicine

on Monday, May 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sigma Epsilon Delta Fraternity Auditorium The Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv Entrance through Gate 10 on Klatzkin Street. The public is invited.



Decomposing bodies of slain Rwandans lie in a muddy field outside a church in Rukara, central Rwanda, yesterday. (AP).

UN fears Rwandan death toll higher than 200,000 estimate

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Military observers returning to the Rwandan countryside have reported ethnic killings on such a huge scale that UN officials say estimates of 200,000 deaths may be too low.

"We are alarmed that the estimates of 200,000 may not have been exaggerated. We are afraid it might actually be higher. We cannot now say that they are," said UN spokesman Abdul Kabia in Kigali.

"Anytime we get access to an area we find more massacres. What has alarmed us is we are starting to discover many, many more dead. We have reports of

whole towns and villages killed or deserted with only goats roaming around," said Kabia.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel told reporters yesterday in Bonn that there were indications that about 500,000 people had been killed. Ethnic fighting flared after the presidents of Rwanda and neighboring Burundi were killed in a mysterious plane crash April 6.

No one knows for sure how many people were killed. Nobody has tried to count the dead piled up on city streets, hidden in the countryside, buried in shallow mass graves or dumped by the tens of thousands into rivers.

The UN Security Council has authorized a force of 5,500 new peacekeepers from Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe to deploy in Rwanda and to use force to protect civilians and relief workers in areas where humanitarian aid is provided.

The new UN troops, who may take more than a month to arrive in the country, will not be able to use force to prevent massacres in areas outside their control or to stop the fighting between rebel and government soldiers.

That fighting spread farther into southern Rwanda on Wednesday where UN officials say government troops blew up a bridge be-

tween Bugesera and Butare to slow a rebel drive to the south.

The Hutu-led government army also rushed reinforcements to Gitarama, the seat of the interim government just southwest of the capital which is now threatened by the advance of the mostly Tutsi rebels.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said yesterday that several hundred thousand people who have fled the fighting have massed around Gitarama. It said it was able to get one convoy to the area on Monday with food only for several thousand of the refugees taking shelter at the city's stadium.

S. Korean students hold huge anti-gov't rally

KWANGJU, South Korea (Reuters) — Thousands of students calling for President Kim Young-sam to resign clashed with riot police in Kwangju last night after a rally in memory of the crushing of a 1980 civilian uprising.

The rally drew about 20,000 people to the main square outside a local government building and broke up peacefully after five hours. But groups of radical students confronted police afterwards.

"To the beat of drums and gongs, they marched through the streets, shouting 'Down with Kim Young-sam' and 'Let's Drive Out Americans.'"

Anti-American sentiment is particularly strong in Kwangju, 260 kilometers southwest of Seoul,

where citizens say Washington, South Korea's chief military backer, condoned the army's brutal suppression of the 1980 uprising against military rule.

Riot police, who had stayed off the streets during the afternoon rally, reappeared after nightfall when demonstrators tried to march towards the US Cultural Center and the local headquarters of President Kim's ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP). Kwangju is an opposition stronghold.

In one encounter, riot police fired several rounds of tear gas to block stick-wielding students approaching the DLP office. The students dispersed but later assembled again to try to breach police lines.

There were no immediate reports of serious injuries or arrests.

Groups of students, waving banners and singing nationalistic songs, earlier marched from their campuses to join citizens and dissidents at the rally at city center.

One group burned effigies representing South Korean ex-presidents Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae-woo, and the United States.

The anniversary of Kwangju uprising is the most emotion-laden day in South Korea's struggle for democracy.

Students and citizens demanding an end to martial law imposed by then-military strongman Chun seized control of the city for several days.

Troops quashed the rebellion, with heavy bloodshed. Official fig-

ures put the death toll at 200, but citizens say it was much higher.

Speakers at the rally demanded a full probe into the tragedy and trials for Chun, his hand-picked successor Roh and other ex-generals they hold responsible for the brutal suppression.

President Kim Young-sam, who took office in February 1993 as the nation's first civilian head of state for more than three decades, has tried to soothe the pent-up anger over the Kwangju massacre.

He declared the victims national martyrs, but rejected calls for a full-scale inquiry into the tragedy. He urged the nation to let historians decide whom to blame, and called for forgiveness for "those who erred."

Bosnian Serbs free 11 French aid workers

PARIS (Reuters) — Bosnian Serbs yesterday released 11 French aid workers detained on allegations that they had tried to smuggle arms to Muslims, ending a six-week standoff with the French government, officials said.

A spokesman for the charity Premiere Urgence said it paid \$4,000 bail for each of its workers. The charity has denied the charges and said its staff were framed and held hostage.

"France welcomes the release of our 11 fellow countrymen from the humanitarian organization Premiere Urgence, held near Sarajevo since April 3," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Bosnian Serbs accused the 10

men and one woman of trying to smuggle arms to Muslims concealed in a relief convoy. The aid workers denied the charge.

The head of Premiere Urgence, Thierry Maurice, said he won release of his co-workers by arranging the payment of \$44,000 in "bail."

"The French government did not agree to this, but I took responsibility for it and we paid \$4,000 for each," Maurice told Reuters.

France's ambassador to Bosnia, in liaison with a Foreign Ministry doctor, had daily contact with the charity workers but Maurice said they were psychologically exhausted.

The French government had opposed the payment of bail on the grounds it lent legitimacy to a legal process that Paris, which does not recognize the self-declared Bosnian Serb government, contested.

A United Nations spokesman in Sarajevo told reporters the 11 were handed over in the presence of the French ambassador to Bosnia.

Captain Guy Vinet said they were flown by helicopter from the Bosnian capital to a French warship in the Adriatic.

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe told parliament the released workers were expected to arrive in Paris within several hours.

Northern thrust toward Aden bogs down in fierce battles

AL-ANAD, Yemen (AP) — Southern troops fought fierce battles yesterday with northern rivals seeking to capture this strategic military base, the last major obstacle in their drive to capture the southern stronghold of Aden.

Tank and artillery battles raged in the sprawling al-Anad base, 56 kilometers northwest of the southern capital, as the northern thrust bogged down.

Fighting over al-Anad, a 144-square-kilometer base, flared over the weekend in what could be the decisive battle in the two-week-old civil war.

The prize in the see-saw battle is control of the main north-south road and the gateway to Aden, which lies on the coastal plain in this country on the southwestern tip of the Arabian peninsula.

San'a radio appealed to the estimated 250,000 people living in Aden to declare their loyalty to the northern leadership under President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

"This is the last chance for those who are misled by the forces of

apostasy and secession to join the ranks of their brothers," the broadcast said.

Civil war between north and south broke out May 5 after months of skirmishing between the two sides as a political crisis between the rival leaderships plunged this nation of 14 million people into turmoil.

The war threatens to disintegrate a 1990 merger between conservative North Yemen and socialist South Yemen that formed the Arab world's youngest democracy.

The southern command said in a communique yesterday that its forces had crushed an attempt to capture al-Anad. It said artillery guns, tanks and air force jets teamed up to defend the base.

It claimed that southern troops had routed a northern brigade in Zinjibar, about 50 kilometers east of Aden. It said 400 northern soldiers were killed in the battle, but did not mention its own casualties.

Northern forces earlier said they had captured al-Anad, but their

commanders told reporters yesterday that an air base south of the main complex was still in southern hands.

Northern officers claimed the base is garrisoned by 10,000 southern troops — about one-third of Aden's regular forces.

Reporters in al-Anad heard the thunder of artillery barrages as well as broadsides from multiple rocket launchers farther south.

The small town of al-Anad was enveloped in black smoke from burning buildings and installations as northern anti-aircraft batteries opened up on formations of southern warplanes flying overhead. No hits were observed.

Maj. Yahya Sanad of the north's 3rd Brigade, part of the assault force, claimed there had been no northern casualties when they took al-Anad Monday evening.

There was no way to confirm that claim. Both sides have repeatedly claimed supremacy since the fighting began, but many of their communiqués have proved to be highly exaggerated.

Official results put Balaguer ahead

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Soldiers patrolled the streets of the capital yesterday to prevent disturbances as President Joaquin Balaguer crept toward a "narrow" victory in "fraud-marred" elections.

Opposition parties alleged the Balaguer-run election board prevented as many as 200,000 eligible voters from casting ballots and placed thousands of phony entries for Balaguer in the computer vote count.

International election monitors

and diplomats confirmed there was some fraud, and leading challenger Jose Francisco Pena Gomez demanded a recount.

Balaguer did not discount irregularities, but said that if any occurred, they were related to a new electoral system and to high levels of illiteracy.

"I believe that the elections have been very good and that the presence of international observers has been positive," Balaguer said in a radio interview yesterday.

With 8,277 of 9,528 precincts

counted by yesterday morning, the election board said Balaguer received 1,099,722 valid votes or 42.6 percent, Pena Gomez 1,063,500 or 41.6 percent and former President Juan Bosch 341,569 or 13.2 percent.

But Pena Gomez, hoping to become the first black president this century in a nation that is 84 percent black or of mixed-race, insisted he was leading. He called the election process "an assassination of the democratic will of the Dominican people."

Venezuela court orders arrest of former president Perez

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Former President Carlos Andres Perez, suspended from office last year on corruption charges, was ordered jailed yesterday as his trial on charges of embezzlement and misuse of funds proceeds.

Perez, 71, maintained his innocence as he turned himself in at the tribunal.

"He had been allowed to remain free, but the Supreme Court voted 10-4 that he and two of his former aides should be jailed."

"I'm the victim of a giant intrigue," Perez said in a statement

handed out by his attorney, Alberto Arteaga. "Those who couldn't topple me and oblige me to resign, unleashed an implacable campaign to provoke my departure from the presidency."

Perez and his ex-interior minister, Alejandro Izaguirre, were taken to a police station, en route to El Jaqueito jail on the outskirts of Caracas. The second aide, former presidential secretary Reinaldo Figueroa, is believed to have fled the country.

Perez was removed by Congress last May after he was accused of

embezzling and misappropriating public funds. He never has been convicted of either charge. The case involves questions about the conversion of the Venezuelan bolivar to dollars at a favorable exchange rate in 1989, shortly after Perez began a second presidential term, and the use of those funds.

Perez has said he does not have to account for the \$17.2 million because they were for an Interior Ministry fund legally allowed to be secret.

Critics allege that Perez spent the money on his own inauguration in 1989, and on foreign policy initiatives, including Venezuelan bodyguards for Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro.

Mrs. Chamorro took out full-page ads in Caracas newspapers this month to deny that allegation.

Allegations of corruption helped provoke two attempted military coups against Perez in 1992.

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The Department of English ANNUAL LECTURE IN MEMORY OF SHEILA CARMEL

A meeting with Yehuda Amichai
An evening of poetry

on Thursday, May 19, at 6 p.m.

Yona Ettinger Hall, The Gilman Building
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv.

Entrance through Ramniceanu Gate (Gate 4)

The public is invited.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

Inauguration of the Eric and Sheila Samson Chair in Algebraic Analysis

Lecture
Professor Joseph Bernstein
Incumbent of the Chair
Mathematics as a Natural Science

on Monday, May 23, 1994 at 11 a.m.
at the Melamed Auditorium (7), Shenkar Building of Chemistry
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv
Entrance through Austria Gate (1) and Ramniceanu Gate (4)

The public is invited.

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Your Gift Search is Over

هكذا من الأصل

Resist the urge to take revenge on your ex-wife

DEAR RUTHIE

RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,
My wife divorced me 30 years ago and married my close friend.

I never remarried. She is now a widow, has relocated in Israel and wants to come and live with me. Over the years, I've often imagined such a moment and fantasized about kicking her out.

But now that I'm actually faced with the situation, I don't know how to handle it.

Joliet Jilce
Tiberius

Dear JJ,

Take her in only if you wish to be reunited with her. Don't succumb to any other motive. If you need to feel superior to her or want to make her grateful to you so as to make up for 30 years of wounded pride, you'll be the one to suffer.

Conversely, "kick her out" only if you are no longer interested in her.

Other motives - revenge, for example - could cause you as much harm as they cause her. Perhaps more.

Cutting off one's nose to spite one's face has never been considered a successful method for getting even.

Dear Ruthie,

My father is terminally ill in a hospital in the US. Should I make a special trip to visit him - even though it is doubtful he will recognize me? Perhaps it is more important that I attend his funeral instead.

What do you think?
Summoned Son
Jerusalem

Dear Summoned,
I think it's more important for you to try to reach your father before he dies. His ability to recognize you is something neither you nor any doctor can predict. What is certain is that saying goodbye in person will have more significance for both of you than doing so at the graveside.

Dear Ruthie,
My five-year-old daughter always wants to "help" me with the housework. Though I am aware that letting her share in this can be invaluable to her development, I get irritated by having every task take three times as long. I also hate it when she breaks dishes at the sink.

Is there a solution other than grunting my teeth and bearing it?
Scrambled Scrubber
Ariel

Dear Scrambled,
Why not do as much as you can when your daughter isn't home? Then you can allow her to putter around the rest of the housework to her heart's content. As for the broken dishes: Let her wash the plastic ware. If you haven't any, get some.

But don't worry. If your daughter is anything like the rest of the human race, she will quickly tire of helping around the house. Give her a couple more years and you'll have to plead with her to go near the kitchen sink.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Teenagers' retreat in the Poconos

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

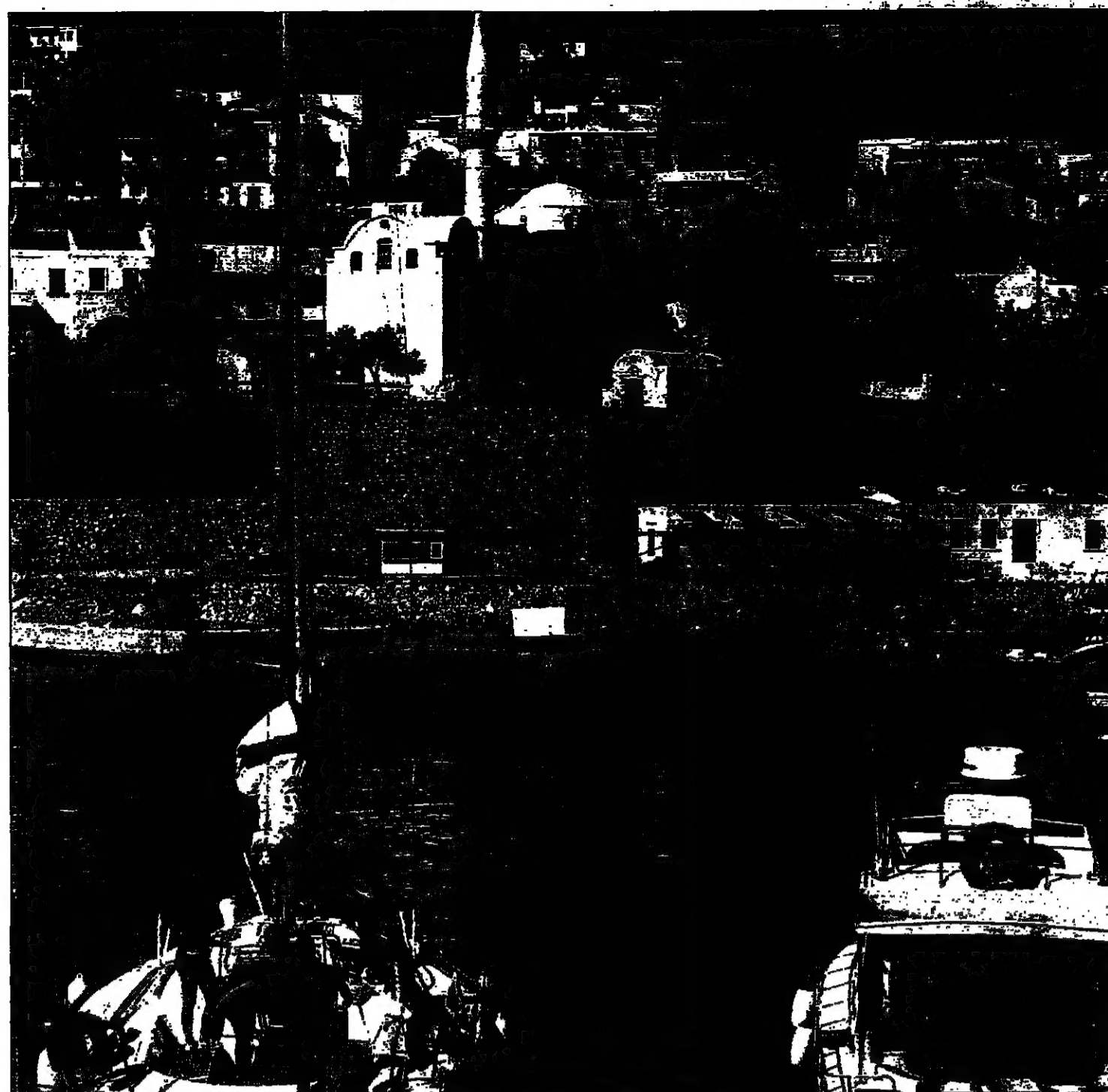
A summer camp experience in the US is available for Israeli teenagers, aged 13 to 17, at a camp run by B'nai B'rith in the Pocono Mountains, about two hours from New York City. The camp has both American and Israeli counselors and offers the Israeli youngsters a chance to meet their American and European counterparts. The price for a 20-day session, including all meals, transportation and air fare, is \$2,980; a trip to Disney World ups the price by \$400.

A TOURISM fair, The International Mediterranean Peace Tourism Market, is to be held in Tel Aviv in June, organized by Israel Travel News. The fair will deal with incoming, local and outgoing tourism, and will include representatives from Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta, Egypt, China and Romania. It will be open to the public.

KIBBUTZ LAVI, a religious kibbutz in Galilee with a long-established hotel, has recently set up an educational center which offers groups and families a choice of programs focusing on Galilee, Judaism and kibbutz life. A kibbutz bar/bat mitzva experience is also available.

For further information, contact Yitzhak Snitkoff at Kibbutz Lavi, Lower Galilee 15267. Fax 06-799399.

FOR SERIOUS seekers of the Loch Ness monster, a Scottish company has arranged for a deep diving craft, the Loch Ness Submarine, which takes up to five passengers and is equipped with powerful underwater lights, large viewports and sonar. An hour-long trip is \$68.50 per person. For reservations, which are essential, contact Loch Ness Exhibition Centre, Drumnadrochit, Invernesshire IV3 6TU.



The Kalkan Marina in Antalya; the region is awash with reminders of Israel.

Total invasion of Turkey

TRAVEL

GLORIA DEUTSCH

CHECK your dollars for forgeries" was the best advice we were given before hopping over to Turkey for a weekend.

It seemed a nuisance to have to pass our bills through a money-changer's machine. But cinematic depictions of life in a Turkish jail convinced us that it might be advisable. And, as it happened, one of our \$100 notes did turn out to be counterfeit.

Our destination was Antalya on what is called the Turkish Riviera, the southern coast of the country at a point where the Mediterranean and the Aegean meet.

The "weekend" began with a Thursday night El Al flight and ended with a night flight on Sunday, which allowed three full days there.

The man sitting next to us on the plane informed us he'd done the trip two weeks before and was going back. The big attraction for him was neither the weather nor the bazaars (which are similar to ours), nor even the sights and antiquities, but the casinos.

Although we regard a few dollars lost on roulette as an evening well spent, nothing prepared us for the sight of so many fellow-Israelis losing, and occasionally winning, thousands of dollars.

IN TURKEY the Israeli invasion is total. Ya'acov, a Haifa resident

with whom we chatted on Shabbat in the Sheraton's health club, was staying at an upscale hotel to avoid his fellow countrymen. He'd been at the Falez next door, and the sight of 300 Israelis laying siege to the breakfast bar and then leaving half the food on their plates had been too much for him.

Hordes of Israelis, streets that are reminiscent of Jaffa and hotel lobbies that recall Tel Aviv's Central Bus Station, are not the only reminders of home. From the minute one emerges from the airport, having queued up to purchase a visa with all the other passengers, one is greeted by Hebrew-speaking taxi drivers, porters and guides.

Some have just mastered the rudiments. Others are able to carry on a fair conversation in Hebrew. In the market the sales patter was all in Hebrew, and even though we tried to answer in English we didn't fool anybody.

We felt a nasty jolt when a tall man veered into our path and we heard him growl "shahim" - territories. We thought he was squaring up for a political argument. Actually, he was trying to interest us in his carpets (shahim).

Knowing Hebrew is good for

business and the Turks are as keen to sell their wares as anyone else. They will go to any lengths not to lose a customer. When we discovered that we'd forgotten to bring a camera, we went looking for a throwaway. kind. The salesman ran off and returned five minutes later clutching a camera. He'd brought it from a shop down the block and simply hiked the price by 50 percent.

The same situation repeated itself when we stopped for an urgently needed coffee, our energy having been sapped by relentless bargaining to get prices we could boast about.

"Two coffees, right," said the dark-haired vendor, before disappearing down the twisted alleys of the market. We looked around the cafe and saw grilled meats, salads, a refrigerator with cold drinks - but no coffee machine.

Surprisingly we got up and walked off in the opposite direction, praying we wouldn't bump into a waiter carrying two cups of Turkish coffee.

SHOPPING is a dominant part of any time spent in Turkey, and leather jackets can be found for \$100 and less, but the sights of

Antalya are well worth the break from bargain hunting.

The usual form of transportation is the taxi, and naturally there are no fixed rates.

Incidentally, the Turkish lira must be one of the most inflated currencies in the world: 170,000 get you a hairdo; 10,000 a Diet Coke; and 2,000 a trip to the loo.

The old city of Antalya is a walled medieval town with many parts of the original walls and gates still standing.

The cobbled alleyways lead down to a barely reconstructed harbor, with glorious views of the sea and snow-capped mountains in the distance.

There are some architectural wonders, including Hadrian's Gate leading from the Ataturk monument into the old city, a three-arched marble structure built in 130 CE to commemorate the emperor's visit, and the Fluted Minaret constructed in 1230 - a 38-meter-high turret with eight fluted sections covered in dark blue tiles. A short drive takes you to the inland waterfall areas or to fishing villages dotting the coast.

Three days are hardly enough to skim the surface of a country. On the return flight, almost asphyxiated by the smell of 500 leather coats, we decided to return to Turkey for a longer period. And not for the shopping.

Checking out hotel check-ins

LIFE-STYLE

MICHAEL CONLON

THE business traveler in a rush may soon be able to check into hotels in the US without ever talking to anyone except a machine.

It is possible now at two test sites, in Chicago and Atlanta, where Hyatt Hotels is experimenting with an electronic check-in that can register a guest in less than a minute.

Checking out of a hotel electronically is already routine at many locations in North America.

Automatic check-in "should become permanent, given the approval rating it's gotten so far," said Ross Cohen, executive assistant manager at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare near Chicago, where a check-in counter has been registering guests for several weeks.

The system, which resembles an automated bank teller, is the first of its kind in the hotel industry, according to Andersen Consulting of Chicago, which developed it.

The guest reserves in advance, specifying the type of room, and providing a credit card number for billing. On arrival, the guest inserts into the device the credit card used for the reservation. A video screen displays the room number, cost, and other information and asks the guest to verify the data.

If all is agreed, the machine spits out one or two credit-card-sized room keys, along with a printout showing the room number and cost. At that point the guest is fully checked in and can begin receiving messages.

(Reuters)



Today at the festival

JERUSALEM THEATER

Sherover □ Swedish Folkopera - "Tarantol" by Giacomo Puccini, 8:30 p.m.

Henry Crown □ Guitarist Julian Bream, 4:30 p.m.; Jerusalem Symphony, 8 p.m.

Rebecca Crown □ El Tricicle - comedy, 8:45 p.m.

Henry Crown foyer □ Standup comedy, 10 p.m.

Little Theater □ Classical recital, 9 p.m. (free)

Foyer □ Piano/violin duo, 5 p.m.; Rami Shuler Trio - jazz, 11:30 p.m. (both free)

Amphitheater □ Plenty Saxophones, 5:45 p.m.; Israeli songs, 7 p.m. (both free)

Tent □ Children's play, 6:45 p.m.; US folksinger, 8:15 p.m. (both free)

GERARD BEHAR □ Tangokinesis - Argentinean dance 6 p.m. extra performance

LIBERTY BELL GARDEN □ Circus Oz, 4:30 p.m.

SULTAN'S POOL □ Carlos Jobim - bossa nova, 8:45 p.m.

RED HOUSE (Motza) □ Blues, 10 p.m.

Poems written, burned, remembered: The extraordinary Michalski-Rubashova story

BOOKS

RICHARD EDER

THE AKHMATOVA JOURNALS: VOLUME I, 1938-1941 (translated by Milena Michalski and Sylvia Rubashova) Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.50, 310 pp.

IT was 1940, in Leningrad. Through the communal kitchen, strung with wet laundry, and past cramped quarters housing her former husband, another of her former wives and assorted relatives, Anna Andreevna Akhmatova sat with two friends in her unswerving room, cluttered with broken furniture and a few mementos. In a whisper she recited part of her just-finished "Requiem," the epic poem that charts the floodwater devastation of Stalin's terror.

The lives of all three women had been flooded out. Akhmatova, whose first husband was shot early in the revolution, queued up every week trying to get a letter or a package to her son in prison. Lydia Chukovskaya's husband, a brilliant physicist, had been shot two years earlier, though the authorities allowed her to spend a year seeking frantically for word of a man who was already dead. Tanya Gabbe, an editor of children's books, had merely lost her job and her world.

The Akhmatova Journals: Volume I, 1938-1941, a recollection of Chukovskaya's long and extraordinary companionship with Akhmatova, are a treasure thrown up by the flood, and a record of one of Russia's greatest poets, and of an incandescent relationship. Chukovskaya is a powerful writ-

er. In one sense the journals could be the dialogue of Samuel Johnson and a Boswell without clownishness but with an equivalent talent to make the mountain speak.

In another sense they evoke Cleopatra and Charmian, who was Shakespeare's greatest tragic companion. (Akhmatova's "Cleopatra" is one of the poems Chukovskaya most often alludes to.)

Finally, Chukovskaya has portrayed a time when writers were suppressed and their writing could not quite be.

Chukovskaya was the daughter of Kornei Chukovsky, Russia's greatest children's writer and a friend and protector to other writers more savaged than he. As a child she had been presented to Akhmatova and revered her as a giant. In 1938 she came to seek

her out "on business." She never dreamed that she would have the standing to do so; nor that the standing would be on such tragic ground.

It was futile but the two women immediately struck a bond. Akhmatova was only 50 and was to live another 30 years, but she put on the feebleness of a dying octogenarian, had as many as five "heart attacks" a night, spent much of the time lying yellow and inert on her bed, neglected to eat and, when accompanied, would come to a panicky dead-stop halfway across the broad Nevsky Prospekt. Alone, she would manage it.

She also managed to travel to Moscow from time to time and to vary her usual ragged attire with a stunning black or white gown. "All my life I've been able to look

however I've wanted to - from a beauty to a hag," she confided.

THIS FIRST volume runs from the end of 1938 to 1941; the next is not yet translated.

At home in Leningrad, Chukovskaya would visit several times a week. She soon was the center of the network of friends who sustained the poet.

Chukovskaya records the conversations and the daily traffic. She records Akhmatova's comments and reminiscences of Pasternak, Mandelstam, Mayakovsky and many others. She writes of the brief semi-thaw when a collection of Akhmatova's poems, mostly older ones, was published.

The entries are elliptic and disguised, because the author knew the journals might be seized. (Decades later she added footnotes

that act as a kind of dialogue with the original and flesh it out.)

But how eloquent her muffled voice can be! The NKVD (precursor to the KGB) is referred to as "the torture chamber" or "the big house," but Chukovskaya scornfully comments that it "wished to remain at once all-powerful and nonexistent; it would not let anyone's word call it out of its almighty nonexistence."

Akhmatova was composing some of her most powerful poetry, which could not be published until decades later. Sometimes she wrote on scraps of paper, which she then burned. It was the task of Chukovskaya and others to memorize and later transcribe it. The scene is haunting: "It was a ritual: hands, match, ashtray - a beautiful and mournful ritual."

Chukovskaya was many things to Akhmatova: her comrade in loss, her literary interlocutor, and the human assurance that her poetry would live in a future generation. She was her companion and helper in the sheer effort to get from day to day. "My captain," Akhmatova calls her.

What the poet meant to the author provides one of the most beautiful passages in the book. When she came to see Akhmatova in 1938, her world, present and past, seemed to have vanished.

"In the mental state in which I existed during those years - stunned, deadened - I seemed to myself less truly alive and my non-life unworthy of description," she writes. "By 1940 I had virtually ceased making notes about myself, whereas I wrote about Anna Andreevna more and more of-

ten." Only by writing an "Akhmatova" journal, that is, could she write her own.

"Before my very eyes, Akhmatova's fate - something greater even than her own person - was chiseling out of this famous and neglected, strong and helpless woman, a statue of grief, loneliness, pride, courage. I had known Akhmatova's earlier poems by heart since childhood, and the new ones, together with the movement of hands burning paper over an ashtray, and the aquiline profile, sharply defined as a blue shadow on the white wall of the transit prison, were now entering my life with the same inescapable naturalness as the bridges, St. Isaac's, the Summer Garden or the embankment had already entered it long ago."

(Los Angeles Times)

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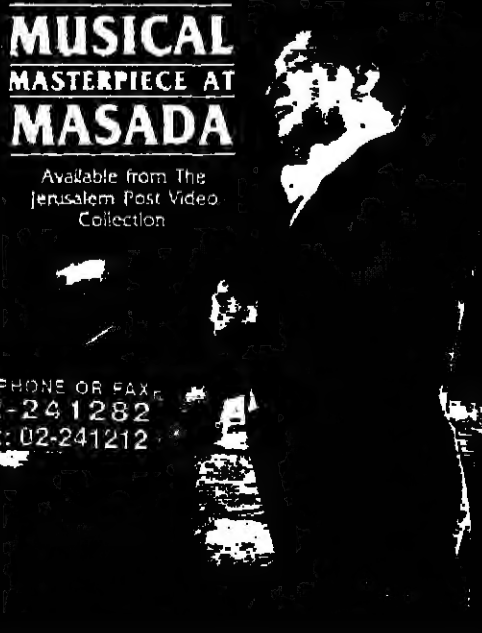
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An adorable car straight out of a child's bedroom

MOTERING

JOEL GORDIN

RENAULT TWINGO three-door, four-seater passenger car. Manual gears. Engine size: 1,239 cc, generating 55 h.p. at 5,300 rpm. Maximum speed: 150 km/h. Acceleration: from 0-100 km/h in 14 secs. Gasoline consumption: at 90/h, 19.6 km/l; in town 13.5 km/l. Price: NIS 44,990.

THE Twingo has at last arrived - more than a year after it took Europe by storm. The reason for the hold-up, according to local Renault dealers Carasso & Sons, was the need to fit it with a factory-made air-conditioner.

The 343 cm.-long Twingo is the shortest vehicle currently being imported. It's nearly 30 cm. shorter than any other car in the super-mini class to which it belongs.

There is, however, a spacious interior, a result of the monobox design which Renault introduced on the luxury-class Espace model. The trunk, passenger compartment and engine are one unit.

The feeling of s-p-a-c-e is accentuated by the huge, split dash under the enormous windshield which extends from the roof at almost a 45-degree angle. The back seat slides backwards and forwards, allowing the passengers to decide whether they want more

room in the trunk or additional leg room. The front and back seats can both be laid flat, to form a double bed.

Even if it was not for these exceptional features, the Twingo would attract immediate attention. It's a vehicle straight from the streets of Disneyland or the pages of Noddy. The nose is snub and cheeky and cheerful. It smiles at you and people smile back, as soon as they see the car.

The interior resembles a child's bedroom, with large, bold-colored knobs and switches. The side mirrors can be adjusted from the inside by big handles.

The alarm warning button is in the shape of a golf ball. The all-digital speedometer, fuel gauge, clock and trip meter are set far in front on the top of the split-level dash. The turning indicator lights are placed beyond the steering wheel, where the speedometer usually is.

The seat upholstery is in bright, even loud colors and patterns. The "glove compartment" is a net bag. Everything is original, cute and different.

It has not exactly been fitted with a toy engine, but it's definitely a toy car, not a Ferrari. It won't be first away at the traffic lights. The engine is also a trifle noisy and the proximity to the pas-



The Renault Twingo is a car with a sense of humor; its front seems to have a personality all its own.

senger compartment doesn't help. The over-noisy, four-speed air-conditioner takes its toll on the 1,300cc engine, and on the road up to Jerusalem there was positive need to curb the flow.

Renault planned the car around only one engine size and few op-

tions - there will never be a rev counter or power steering option, let alone a "Twingo GTI" or "Twingo Turbo." Carasso does, however, promise an automatic shift version will be available by the year's end.

IF I'M on the minus points: the digital speedometer is an eye-catching gimmick, but its position makes it difficult to see - and, to boot, it's inaccurate even to the unpracticed driver. The rubber covering around the shift stick base came away in my hand, al-

though the test car had covered less than 1,000 km.

On the plus side, the gears change easily and have no noticeable "holes" between them. The steering does not have the stiffness which marred the Clio. It's a cinch to park as a result of the short

body length and the closeness of the driver to the front bumper. The spacious interior is not an optical illusion. Four adults can be seated as comfortably as if in a first-class train compartment armchair. Renault has made a wise, bold move by not adding a third seat belt at the back: five passengers would be too much and make people say it's cramped (strangely, the car is licensed to carry five passengers).

The road-holding, in the tradition of most French-made automobiles, is excellent. The economical gasoline consumption figures seemed accurate on the test drive.

There are steel reinforcements in the doors, but there are no optional safety extras like air bags, ABS or seat belt tensioners. All the components are of high-quality materials.

The engine is not built for long, serious interurban journeys. But as a town car or to commute between adjoining towns, the Twingo will carry its four passengers from A to B in comfort, even on bad roads.

Carasso has reduced the price from NIS 48,000 to below NIS 45,000, but that's still high for a 1,300cc car.

On the other hand, you cannot compare the Twingo with another vehicle of any other size. "Unique" is not an adjective which should be lightly used - but that's the Twingo's middle name, along with "adorable."

Keep the bugs (and the heat) out

OFF THE SHELF

MARTHA MESELS

SUMMER'S in the air - but so are mosquitoes, flies and flying roaches. Trellidor, the South African-based company with a factory in Karmiel, suggests a new form of relief: fiberglass screens which roll up and down. They are suitable for both windows and doors, and roll up into a closed storage box at the top.

The screens are said to withstand damage from sun, rain or hail. There is even a built-in brush which removes dust automatically whenever the screens are rolled up or down.

The fiberglass screens are custom-ordered. The cost of covering an average window is about NIS 200 plus VAT, including installation. Frames are available in 10 colors. Orders are taken through Trellidor's sales office, 03-571-1777.

MANY HOMEOWNERS are checking to make sure their air conditioners are in working order. In the event they aren't, both Tadiran and Electra are already trying to sell us their latest models.

Tadiran is offering a split-unit air conditioner in which the indoor section is particularly small, designed to hang unobtrusively on a wall. As in other split-unit models, the noisy motor itself goes on an exterior wall or on a rooftop. Recommended for bedrooms, children's rooms and small offices, these Manhattan Digital TFE's come with all the latest electronic gadgetry, including remote controls. Cooling capacities are suitable for small rooms.

The TFE 11 has a capacity of 9,000 British Thermal Units - "one horsepower" - in everyday market terms - and is priced at NIS 4,690. The 1.25-horsepower TFE 15 lists at NIS 5,290.

It is also possible to cool (and heat) two rooms using a single exterior unit with two interior units, for somewhat less than double the above prices. Prices do not include delivery or installation, which can add anywhere from NIS 400 to NIS 1,000.

For larger rooms, the firm recommends its improved Manhattan Digital GXL line of split-unit models with remote controls, at NIS 5,950 to NIS 7,120, ranging from 2.5 to 3.5 HP. Again, prices do not include delivery or installation.

Parallel-capacity Tadiran split-unit models without electronic controls run about 10 percent lower in price, while wall/window models are even cheaper, albeit noisier.

For its part, competitor Electra is offering the new Penthouse P.R. with electronic controls at introductory prices of NIS 5,990 for the 2.5 HP split unit, and NIS 6,790 for the 3-HP capacity.

Both Tadiran and Electra say their improved models have deicers for use in winter heating in the colder regions of the country. They also have a self-regulator, which prevents harm to the compressor if the appliance is switched off and then on again immediately.

THOSE WHO plan to be on the move within the country this summer may wish to take a look at an attractive road atlas called *Yisrael - Atlas Hakvishim Hehadash*, newly published by the Ministry of Defense together with La'or Publishers.

It seems easy to follow for anyone with even minimal Hebrew-reading skills. The road numbers and colors reportedly match those on actual highway signs.

This is said to be Israel's first fully computerized atlas, which means it should be easy to update as new roads are added or old ones closed or altered. This is fortunate, as the new atlas became somewhat outdated before it hit the bookshelves this week.

The publishers are already promising (within a few months) an updated edition delineating the autonomous districts of Gaza and Jericho, and the roads circumventing them. Editions in other languages, including English, are also planned.

The Hebrew road atlas sells for NIS 79 with ordinary binding and NIS 84 for an easy-to-hold spiral binding, which seems well worth the difference.

WHEN YOU pack away your winter clothes, you might consider an alternative to traditional mothballs. The Body Shop chain, which specializes in environmentally friendly cosmetics, is offering a box of eight perfumed wooden balls which are said to deter moths.

They certainly smell better than



Wella's three new Lifetex Sun products containing papaya, an enzyme said to help the hair cope with the effects of bright sunshine, are sold to the public only by hairdressers (above); Doglion, a medallion-type dog tag, can be found inside Dogli Baby and Dogli Puppy food bags.

conventional mothballs, though I wouldn't want to be held responsible if they don't repel moths as effectively. They could, however, be a solution when out-of-season clothes are stored in inhabited rooms, where mothball odor would be unacceptable.

The wooden balls sell for NIS 14.90. Instructions say you can renew the scent by sprinkling them with a few drops of concentrated perfume, but this might not keep the moths at bay.

WELLA, the hair-care products manufacturer for professional hairdressers, has drafted the papaya into service for coping with the effects of bright sunshine on hair. There are three products in the Wella Lifetex Sun line with papaya. All are on sale to the public via hairdressers throughout the summer months.

Papaya contains an enzyme said to be beneficial to skin and hair. The shampoo, at NIS 20 for just 250 cc, is supposed to leave the hair soft and manageable without

a need for conditioner.

The moisturizing oil, 150 cc at NIS 35, is meant to be used on the hair before and during exposure to the sun. For hair which has been overexposed to the sun to the point of burnt ends and loss of sheen, Wella recommends the After Sun Treatment, a hair mask which comes in a tube, 150 cc for NIS 28.

All three Lifetex Sun products come in white containers with orange lids and labels, with some identifying English. However, the instructions for use are Hebrew-only.

ANOTHER after-sun product in a tube is Careline's aloe vera gel, a plant derivative which is soothing for sunburns and other minor burns. It can also be used as a moisturizer for the skin, and is said to provide protection against the drying effects of sunshine.

A 100-ml. tube, adorned in hot tropical colors, is available for a steep NIS 25.30 at chain stores, pharmacies and perfumeries.



A MEDALLION-LIKE dog-tag dubbed Doglion, to help identify and return lost pets to their owners, is available free in every bag of Dogli Baby and Dogli Puppy dry food for young canines. The dog-tag for dogs is meant to be attached to the collar.

The offer will be good through June. Each purchaser also gets a chance to participate in a raffle for a year's supply of free Dogli.

Flowing into summer

FLAIR

GREER FAY CASHMAN

FUTURE fashion historians may characterize the summer of 1994 as the season of the great cover-up.

High necklines, long sleeves and floor-sweeping skirts are being featured this season. And minis, cropped tops and decolletage are often worn with leggings, long vests, pinafores or sheer tunics, keeping bared flesh to a minimum.

This trend to cover it all is great news for fashion-conscious Orthodox women. The flowing lines also enable the garments to double as maternity clothes.

For women whose weights tend to go up and down, a handful of one-size-fits-all mix-and-match

ensembles takes the worry out of wear. And even women who wear size 50 can wear the same styles as those worn by thinner women, without feeling self-conscious or uncomfortable.

Companies such as Crazy Line, which specialize in fuller fashions, are enabling their clients to be absolutely in vogue.

The loose cut does not hide a large frame, but women wearing these clothes look good to themselves and project a happier and smarter image to others. The demand is unlikely to diminish. The fluid silhouette is here to stay, and soon most fashion houses are likely to be producing garments that fit almost everyone.

OFFERS

2 CENTS' SUITS - lightweight, navy blue, gray, size 44 med., USA and UK, NIS 100 each; jacket, blue and white fine stripes, NIS 50. 09-351759.
BOYS' RALEIGH BIKE - NIS 100; girls' Raleigh, NIS 30, good quality; English toys, good quality. NIS 10 to NIS 30. 04-630442, NS.
LIVING-ROOM BUFFET - 1.80m., good condition, NIS 300. 03-6056169, eves.
JVC VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDER - model no. HR 2200 EK, NIS 300. 03-692601, NS.
GIRLS' YOUTH BIKE - from UK, excellent condition, NIS 250. 03-6735360.
DR. SEUSS 'I CAN READ' BOOKS - NIS 40 each. 04-255121.
MAHOGANY SIDEBORD - 1.20m., NIS 300. 06-78555.
KIDSLINGER'S 'SIMPLY MONEY' - for windows 3.5", complete package, never used, NIS 60. 03-6428329.
VIDEO CASSETTES - movies, LP, 3-4 per cassette, NIS 30. 04-239172.
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ANNUAL BOOK SALE - Friday, May 20 from 10 a.m., prices from NIS 2. 09-584225.
KIDS' PLAY TABLE AND CHAIRS - NIS 60; carpet, blue, 2x3, NIS 190, all excellent condition. 09-346872 (eves).
PORCELAIN SERVICE - for 6, new, coffee, tea, Vienna, NIS 100; carpet set, new,

NIS 100; ceramic for oven, new, NIS 50. 03-509171.
LEATHER HANDBAG - from Argentina, new, NIS 150; straw bag, very large, all lined, from Thailand, NIS 150. 03-296099.
TWO SOLTAM POTS - like new, NIS 50; pot for chips, new, NIS 50; big Teflon pot, new, NIS 55 each. 03-633362.
AGRICULTURAL LIFE - of Jews in Babylonia (200-500 CE), Newman, 1932, unbound copies, NIS 10, postage NIS 2.50 or collect. 02-525763, NS.
JANET JACKSON - 10,000 Maniacs CDs, new, NIS 55 each. 02-633362.
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'HISTORY OF JEWISH PEOPLE IN AMERICA' - five volumes, classic work, beautifully published, new condition, NIS 200. 02-78570, NS.
CONVERTIBLE ARMCHAIR/BED - NIS 220; 30 pinewood planks, all sizes, new, NIS 100. 02-524638.
BARBECUE ON WHEELS - large, custom-made, NIS 150; gas range, two burners, NIS 100. 02-513654, NS.
SINGLE BED WITH MATTRESS - very good condition, NIS 200; chair, NIS 80. 02-431255, NS.
GLASS TOP TABLE - chrome legs, 80 cm. square, 52 cm. high, NIS 150; small table lamp, NIS 45. 02-618762, NS.
GIRLS' SHOE ROLLER SKATES - white, size 35-37, excellent condition, US, NIS 100 o.b.o. 02-272189, Chaya.
REEBOK AIR FOR WOMEN - 9½ US or 41 EU, new, NIS 180. 02-335211.
BOYS' SHORTS - new, green and black, for ages 9-12, NIS 20 each o.b.o. 02-511148,

NS.
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BOOKCASE - table, chairs and other furniture in good condition for recent Russian olim. Will pick up in Haifa area. Nechans, 04-382219.
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YAD CHEN AND YAD LETING - gladly accepts respectable clothing at their distribution center, 6 Shmuel Hanasi, Apt. 10, Chaya, 02-620102; Yocheved, 02-566348.
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WASHING MACHINE - in perfect working order, reasonable price, prefer front-loader. Miriam: 02-633640, afternoons.
BABY FURNITURE AND THINGS - bedroom furniture and entertainment unit, all in good condition and reasonably priced. 02-

785714, NS.
BOOKCASE - refrigerator, filing cabinet, photostat machine, sofa cum double bed, boxspring machine, office table. 02-243228.
USED CLOTHES DRYER - in excellent condition. 02-606446.
BUNK BEDS - in good condition. 02-35373, NS.
'ORGANIC' CHICKENS - Anyone know where I can get them? Really. 02-321088.
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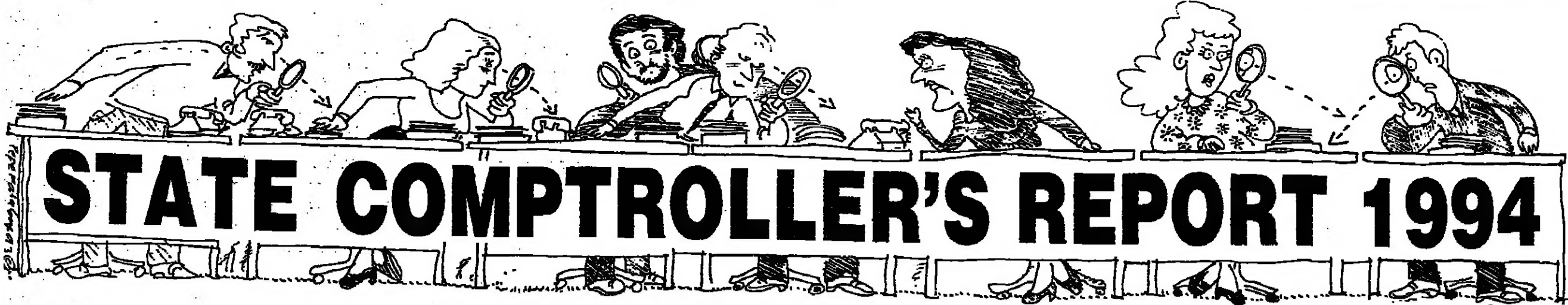
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DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT

IAF procurement loopholes remain, despite Dotan affair

THE Israel Air Force has not implemented all the recommendations made by committees that investigated the Rami Dotan affair, the comptroller found. It has also failed to close all the loopholes in the purchasing process that enabled Dotan, who was in charge of air force procurements until his arrest in 1990, to siphon off millions of dollars from weapons contracts.

The investigating committees included an external body, headed by former deputy finance minister Yehzekel Flumin, and two internal committees, one headed by the Defense Ministry controller and the other by the air force command.

Because of unexplained confusion within the IDF, the findings of the Defense Ministry controller did not reach branches of the army other than the IAF for some two years, even though all branches are involved in military procurements. There was also confusion regarding the status of the Flumin Report and findings. The Defense Ministry has implemented all of the recommendations applying to its own operations, but those that involve coordination with the IDF have yet to be implemented.

The army, on the other hand, did not begin implementing many of the recommendations of the Flumin Report until almost two years after it was issued.

Of the reforms recommended by Flumin that have not yet been implemented, the comptroller stressed "the need for rotation among those holding jobs in the sensitive areas of procurement and finance. There is also a need to find the best way possible to pick suitable candidates for these jobs and monitor their actions while in office. No less important... is the need to strengthen the moral backbone [of those in office] by establishing a code of behavior."

The comptroller investigated how conclusions drawn from the Dotan affair had affected air force maintenance. As a result of the affair, the air force stepped up its monitoring of maintenance operations so that all orders for maintenance work would henceforth have to go through the procurements and production division.

The reforms went into effect in June 1993, but the comptroller found that four months later, there were still holes in the system, enabling air force liaisons with factories to make their own orders without supervision from above.

In checking the supervision of acquisitions, the comptroller found fault in the way the air force estimates the price of components it seeks to purchase, and stressed the negative effect this had on the budgeting process. In the case of hundreds of components ordered by the air force command, the actual price was hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of percentage points higher than estimated.

The air force has still not established a method of monitoring the accuracy of price estimates, nor has it established a process for investigating cases in which there is an inordinate discrepancy between the estimated and actual price.

Not enough care is given to the price entry in the inventory of components stockpiled by the air force, the comptroller found. It is the price entry that usually serves as the air force estimate when drafting the budget for a purchasing order. Often, the price of a component is not updated on the computerized inventory.

She also found that the organizational structure of the air force planning and maintenance branch had not been reevaluated since its establishment 20 years ago, and that a small office established to supervise transactions had not

been fully staffed.

The purchase of a helicopter engine testing facility was examined in detail. The order for the purchase of the facility was handed down in 1989, when Dotan was still in charge of the procurements.

The comptroller found that the air force did not reexamine the contract for the facility after Dotan's arrest, even though there was much about the deal that was suspicious, including an exaggerated price for the facility and the streamlining of the order to a specific supplier.

Regarding purchases abroad, the comptroller found that it still takes too long to receive goods after they are ordered. This problem encourages personnel to look for shortcuts by bypassing regulations.

The comptroller found there were no guidelines as to how much time it should take for the air force purchasing team in New York to submit orders requested by the IAF to American suppliers. A check of 60 parts ordered for the helicopter facility showed it took the team an average of eight months to submit orders. Newly issued guidelines call for a 90-day limit.

DAN IZENBERG

IDF training accident follow-up slammed

Multi-year plan praised

THE comptroller examined the IDF's multi-year plan and probed nine areas of military activity, including training safety and officer training.

Multi-year planning: "Mirkam" is the IDF's multi-year plan, designed to carry the armed forces from 1991 to 2001. It was praised by the comptroller, who noted it had integrated the conclusions reached from the failure of previous multi-year plans, avoiding a discrepancy between planning goals and the resources available to reach them.

The plan is now in its fourth year, and there has been no need to drastically deviate from original goals, though the comptroller criticized the plan's monitoring procedures.

In order to effectively implement the Mirkam, however, a multi-year budget for the Defense Ministry, which allocates the IDF's budget, is necessary. In December 1991, the Knesset passed an amendment to the Basic Law: State Economy, which requires requiring the government to present a three-year budget, but doing so requires the cooperation of the Defense and Finance ministries.

The comptroller found that the two ministries are at odds on the specifics of such a budget, which has prevented its formulation.

The Defense Ministry does have a multi-year work plan, but its planning currently exceeds the budget which appears in the national budget for total defense expenditures.

The comptroller recommended that the Defense and Finance ministries bring their differences to the cabinet for a decision, because further planning in excess of resources could disrupt the IDF's multi-year plan.

Training safety: The comptroller found the IDF had failed to create a standardized data base listing all training accidents and near-accidents. She notes that currently there are three different units dealing with the issue, the General Staff, Ground Forces

Command, and Manpower Branch.

The division of authority among the General Staff's safety department and other units is blurred, nor are any of the units doing detailed analyses of accidents in the ground forces, which would discern patterns regarding their character and severity. This renders the conclusions drawn from the incidents incomplete, she said.

The report said that the order to update safety procedures and guidelines in exercises has not been fully implemented in various units.

The comptroller, however, commended the IDF for the fact that no soldiers died in accidents in 1993, attributing this to improved safety awareness.

War Games: War games, which can be a useful tool for examining scenarios and testing resourcefulness, have not been properly utilized, the comptroller wrote, criticizing the General Staff's training department for not advancing the use of these games.

War games are conducted infrequently and at an unprofessional level, the comptroller wrote. The lack of properly conducted war games results in the absence of a data base that would enable to preserve the experience and knowledge acquired in such games.

Officer training: The IDF defines four major components in the making of an officer: professionalism, ability to command, values, and leadership. The comptroller concluded that both the Officers Candidate School, and the Armored Officers Course (to which would-be Armored officers go after graduating the OCS) fail to train cadets in all four required fields. The Ground Forces Command, which is responsible for the OCS, failed to come up with programs to help an officer acquire the missing skills in the unit in which he was deployed, she added.

Some cadets admitted to the OCS demonstrated a lower level of proficiency in navigation and

marksmanship than the standard required for admission. The Ground Forces Command did not precisely define the professional and command experience it requires from instructors in the officers' courses, as a result course commanders ranked lower in many areas than might be expected.

Training grounds: About a third of Israel's territory constitutes full or partial military training and exercise grounds. These areas are off-limits to the public, due to the use of live fire in exercises.

The Ground Forces Command is responsible for the demarcation, allocation, and use of training grounds, though other branches are involved. The comptroller recommended that the command strive for more efficient utilization of training areas.

As a result of a dispute between the IDF and Israel Lands Administration, the Defense Ministry has not paid the lease for training grounds since 1988. As a result, many of the permits allocating the lands to the IDF have expired. The comptroller recommended a comprehensive examination of expected land needs in the military and civilian sectors, so as to prevent crises arising from such disputes.

Wiretapping in the IDF: There are two types of wiretapping conducted by the IDF: those pertaining to national security (to prevent leaks of information) and those intended to prevent soldiers from making private calls from army phones, which costs the army a hefty amount.

The comptroller found that the units responsible for wiretapping did not follow up the alleged violations and offenses apparently evident in the conversations.

The comptroller also investigated the IDF's reserve reconnaissance units, the air force's absorption of new Apache helicopters, and an unnamed "special project" by the Ground Forces Command, the Mossad and the General Security Service, but did not publicize the findings. ALON PINKAS

R&D funding not properly focused in era of cutbacks

AT a time when the US and other nations are limiting the transfer of advanced technologies, defense R&D in Israel must rely mainly on its own technological infrastructure.

But the economic difficulties of Israel's defense industries undermine the status and even the existence of these infrastructure elements, the comptroller writes.

The main R&D budget for the IDF declined 43% between 1986 and 1994.

The comptroller finds that the defense establishment has not succeeded in defining the scientific areas, areas of development, and infrastructure elements that must be preserved, even if they cannot be justified in economic terms.

R&D is carried out within the various branches of the IDF and in the framework of special projects, but the bulk of R&D funds are channeled through the Defense Ministry's Authority for Research and Development of Weapons Systems and Technological Infrastructure (Mapat).

The drastic budget reduction in recent years has curbed Mapat's ability to undertake research in new fields and develop advanced systems, and makes it difficult to keep up with even routine activities.

The accumulated technological deficit inevitably leads to greater reliance on foreign technology at a time when such technology is becoming less available.

An example cited of lack of planning is the missile branch of Rafael. A certain project was assigned it at the beginning of 1993. At the time, Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen.

Ehud Barak noted that the IDF did not base its decisions solely on professional military calculations, but was interested in helping preserve the human infrastructure of Rafael's missile division "at a reasonable level."

The IDF subsequently transferred NIS 41m. to Rafael for this project.

It was later decided to allocate NIS 10m. annually to the project for the coming five years. The comptroller notes that it is not at all certain that the armed forces will ever equip themselves with the item produced.

The weapons systems division of Rafael was itself criticized for failing to find the new markets and products needed to increase sales.

Tens of millions of shekels were spent between 1989 and 1992 for research, without coming up with a product that would ensure the division's economic well-being in the coming decade.

A drop in sales during these years and the inability to proportionally reduce the work force has created a costly misuse of manpower. ABRAHAM RABINOVICH



The comptroller said the army is not fully analyzing training accidents so as to determine how to best prevent recurrences. (IDF Spokesman)

Home-front security needs reform

BOMB shelters are still being built as if we were living in a pre-missile age, the comptroller reports.

In a chapter devoted to preparations for war and other emergencies, the comptroller sharply criticizes the measures taken by the army, police, and the various government ministries to protect the civilian population.

Home-front security is disorganized and often misdirected, despite repeated warnings by the State Comptroller's Office and other authorities that reform is needed urgently.

"No overall analysis was done of the threat to the home front, including the civilian population," until 1992, the comptroller found. "Because of this, there was no basis for an overall policy."

Even after the Gulf War forced the nation to face the threat of missile attacks on cities, the authorities failed to devise effective security measures. The comptroller says there is an "urgent" need to improve the administration of the Home Front Command, which is understaffed and fur-

ther burdened by the fact that many of its workers are not properly trained.

The comptroller found that, by the end of 1993, some 3.8 million people had received new gas masks, reflecting a great effort on the part of the command. But nearly one-fourth of those who received new masks were not shown how to use them properly, because they themselves did not come to the distribution centers but had family members pick up the masks for them.

The comptroller calls on the defense establishment to review the standards set for gas masks, and concludes that masks should be issued that are effective even outside a sealed room.

Standards for constructing bomb shelters have not been updated since before the country's Arab neighbors began arming themselves with surface-to-surface missiles, according to the report.

"Despite the changes in the threats to the home front over the past two decades, a viewpoint drawn in the 1950s continued to define the type of defense used," the report states. BILL HUTMAN

Government failing to get tough with Clalit

KUPAT HOLIM

THE Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit has consistently failed to resolve its financial crisis because it assumes that the government will never allow the nation's largest health-care provider to go bankrupt.

The comptroller says the government has encouraged this state of affairs by failing to insist that the health fund and the Histadrut meet the conditions of their various recovery programs before they are given financial assistance.

In several cases the government also eased payment requirements without getting Knesset approval, and despite the additional cost to the Treasury.

The 1986 government rescue plan failed to eliminate Kupat Holim's mounting deficit. During the second half of 1992, the Treasury was forced to step in and provide the health fund with NIS 290m. to prevent its collapse. The fund's management was changed and, in March 1993, the Treasury signed a three-year recovery plan with the fund and the Histadrut.

Under the agreement, the government was to contribute NIS 350m., the Histadrut and Kupat Holim NIS 320m., and the

banks and other creditors NIS 271m. toward reducing the fund's NIS 1.12 billion deficit.

In addition, the Histadrut committed itself to transfer to the fund at least NIS 1.917b. of the *mas ahid* - health insurance premiums - it collects. Kupat Holim agreed to reach a signed agreement with its workers for an across-the-board 5% pay cut; to dismiss 1,200 employees; and to arrange with the banks to reschedule its debt.

Although not all the conditions were met, the Treasury began transferring funds to Kupat Holim last May. To date, the fund has still not reached a refinancing arrangement with its banks.

Although the fund was supposed to renegotiate its debt to suppliers by getting them to forgive a portion of it, Kupat Holim only extended its repayment schedule to them. At the end of 1992, Kupat Holim's debt to the banks stood at NIS 977m., while it owed NIS 1.357b. to its suppliers.

The Treasury failed to condition assistance to Kupat Holim on receipt of *mas ahid* collection data

from the Histadrut. This would have ensured that fund members paid their share before any government money was spent.

Despite its financial commitments last year, the Histadrut fell short by NIS 164m. from its agreement to transfer NIS 2.008b. to Kupat Holim. The fund also expects the Histadrut will be NIS 306m. short this year in its *mas ahid* obligations to the fund.

Having failed to reach an agreement to cut 5% of its workers' wages, which would have saved NIS 91m., the Histadrut and the fund renegotiated their agreement with the government so that the Histadrut would transfer NIS 41m. to the fund, the fund would find NIS 20m. in savings, and the workers would provide NIS 30m. in wage concessions.

Available documents do not make it clear whether the Histadrut transferred the NIS 41m. the comptroller says. Kupat Holim met its obligations by not paying its contribution to its workers' study funds (*krantot hshitalim*) since March last year, thus increas-

ing the fund's future indebtedness. Moreover, the wage agreement the government signed early this year will increase the nurses' wages 30%, raising the fund's wage bill rather than reducing it.

The comptroller also found irregularities on the part of the government. In 1993, the accountant-general changed the conditions of a 1992 NIS 80m. loan to Kupat Holim, which translates into a NIS 5m. subsidy. The change was made without getting Knesset approval.

The government also forgave NIS 30m. It was owed by the fund for hospitalization services in government hospitals. The decision and the reasons for granting the fund this benefit were never brought to the Knesset finance committee's attention.

In January 1993, the Income Tax Authority agreed to spread over a six-year period the repayment of the fund's income-tax debt on its workers' salaries under generous terms. The fund only has to repay the indexed value of the debt, without interest. The government thus gave up over NIS 50m. in interest payments. JOSE ROSENFELD

Deal with Clalit for immigrants too costly

THE government undermined itself during negotiations with the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit to update its contract to provide free health insurance to new immigrants, the comptroller reports.

The report says the government paid the health fund large advances in the course of negotiations, and failed to require it to provide pricing data to arrive at a realistic cost for the insurance.

As a result, under the agreement signed with the fund last September, the government will pay NIS 246 a month for an immigrant family and NIS 137 a month for individuals. These rates are 208% higher for a family and 164% more for an individual than the fund's minimum rate.

The Absorption Ministry pays for new immigrants' health insurance for their first six months in the country. Immigrants can choose which of the four health funds will provide their services to them. The government, in turn, pays each fund, based on the number of their new immigrant members.

The immigration wave that began in late 1989 led the four health funds in 1991 to renegotiate their 20-year-old contract with the government for covering new immigrants.

During negotiations with Kupat Holim Clalit, the government paid large advances corresponding to the rates that were finally agreed to between the two sides. According to the comptroller, the advances gave the fund the incentive to stretch out negotiations and to demand higher rates.

Since Kupat Holim Clalit had no pricing data available, the government should have negotiated with all the funds at once to reach a competitive rate, the comptroller states. Instead, the government negotiated first with the largest fund, which was in financial difficulties, leading to higher health insurance rates.

Negotiations with the remaining three funds only began last November and are expected to result in similar high rates. JOSE ROSENFELD



Most funds for building went to towns with Labor mayors

HOUSING MINISTRY

MOST of the funds committed to support construction projects last year went to local authorities headed by Labor Party members, the comptroller reports.

The fact that 1993 was an election year for the local authorities lends weight to the assumption that Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Director-General Arye Mizrahi made these allocations with political considerations in mind, she adds. Written records of most of these allocations never cited the criteria on which they were based.

Most of the commitments by Ben-Eliezer and Mizrahi were made during tours and meetings with local council heads. These commitments were made unconditionally, often in excess of the ministry's budget and with disregard to previous commitments.

Meanwhile, the minister decided to cut back on funding to local authorities headed by Likud members, often without examining the status of projects before they were canceled. In several places, construction had already begun, based on millions of shekels of Housing Ministry commitments given under the previous, Likud government.

As a result of these often impromptu commitments, a number of local authorities did not get development budgets or funds for building public institutions for which they were eligible, because priority was given to those commitments made by the minister or the director-general. This "meth-

od" of distributing construction funds might leave real needs unmet, aside from the obvious violation of proper administrative procedures, she wrote.

The ministry also hired an advertising agency whose owner and manager is also the manager of a company owned by Mizrahi, without issuing a tender, the comptroller found. Mizrahi told the comptroller's office that he was familiar with this agency because he had worked with it in the past, as a private businessman, but an investigation revealed the connection.

The ministry paid the advertising agency NIS 50,000 for a project aimed at vacating caravan sites. The cost of the project was budgeted at a maximum of NIS 25,000. No contract between the ministry and the agency was found.

Mizrahi also hired four advisers without issuing a public tender, as required, after both recommending them to the tender committee and then approving their employment as head of the tenders committee, a clear conflict of interests.

The director-general explained to the committee that he had interviewed other candidates but preferred those he presented. However, he produced no documentation regarding the other candidates' qualifications.

All told, the ministry paid NIS 870,000 to 12 advisers in various fields, from May to October 1993, without supervising their activity or demanding a detailed report of the hours they worked.

In most cases the hiring was on the basis of personal preference or



'Binyamin Ben-Eliezer made allocations with political considerations in mind.'

the adviser's party connections. It is not clear on what basis the bills submitted by these advisers were paid by the ministry, since they contained few details.

Meanwhile, the ministry's shortcomings in handling the budgets for housing assistance to needy families is preventing housing solutions for thousands of people.

The budget for purchasing apartments for needy families was NIS 28.11 million in 1992, but only NIS 21.53m. was used - or 77%. In 1993 the budget was NIS 23.3m. but only 83%, or NIS 19.25m. was used. Utilizing the full budget would have clearly made more apartments available for needy families, the comptroller wrote.

The ministry rejects applications for subsidized rental housing

without explanation, making it difficult for needy families to take advantage of their rights to assistance.

Several needy families in Jaffa who applied for subsidized rental housing were turned down. The only reason given in the rejection letter from the ministry was that there was "no justification for deviating from the rules."

There was no explanation as to what conditions or rules the applicants failed to comply with, nor were they informed that they could appeal this decision, which is in fact the case.

As a result of the ministry's inefficient handling of budgets for housing assistance, a year and a half after the government's decision to allocate thousands of apartments for rental by needy families, only 130 such apartments have been populated.

The comptroller found that in eight out of 39 applications examined, the Halamish housing company did not follow the procedures applying to those who are not "discharged soldiers," with regard to the allocation of subsidized rental apartments. Those falling into this category are generally Arabs, Beduin and Druse.

Among those whose applications were rejected were some of extremely low income, who were told they were "not consuming their earning potential." The report urged that each of these cases be examined more thoroughly, to give people who do not "consume their earning power," for reasons not in their control, an adequate housing solution.

MICHAEL YUDELMAN



Roads still far from safe

POLICE MINISTRY

THE police have fallen short in their effort to keep the nation's roads safe, the comptroller finds. Manpower is misplaced, equipment is misused, and traffic accidents continue to take a heavy toll in deaths, injuries and economic damage.

The report is particularly critical of the National Traffic Police, established on an experimental basis in 1991. The number of accidents involving injuries rose from 19,520 in 1991 to 21,832 in 1993; the number of fatalities rose from 451 to 494 in the same period.

"Although the expanded enforcement has improved deterrence, it has not done so to the degree needed," the report says. "It was found that only in 1993 was it decided to ... resort to greater police presence to catch drivers who violate the law."

This policy, although two years "late," seemed to have at least some effect. "Roads under the control of the National Traffic Police showed a drop of 10 percent in the number of accidents between

1992 and 1993," the report states. But overall, traffic police are not being used properly as a deterrent to drivers, the report states.

Some 77% of traffic accidents in 1992 occurred in urban areas. Only 50% of manpower and 30% of equipment are devoted to these areas.

Only four policemen in the Nazareth, Tiberias and Afula - are assigned to traffic duties.

BILL HUTMAN

Alcoholism prevention not regulated

LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY

THE prevention of alcoholism and the treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics is not regulated, with the only legislation relating to the issue forbidding the sale of alcohol to minors and drunks, the comptroller found.

Alcoholics could come under the purview of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, the Health and Education ministries, the National Insurance Institute, two non-profit organizations and the social welfare department of the various local authorities, she found, and no division of responsibility between these bodies has ever been established.

There is no central authority which decides on policy, collects resources for prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and research, and decides on priorities.

Until the 1970s alcoholism was a marginal factor here, but in the past 20 years it has become an increasing problem.

The Health Ministry and the Labor Ministry have conducted a survey to establish the extent of the problem, or to define geographic areas where it is more likely to occur.

The Labor Ministry's assessment is that there are 30,000 alcoholics in the country, but between 1974 and the end of 1991 only some 7,000 received treatment.

The lack of data with regard to the affected and treated populations and the success of treatment makes it difficult to prepare for further eventualities and to examine the efficacy of steps taken, the report notes. The comptroller called for the establishment of a central authority to coordinate all aspects of the problem. On other matters, the comptroller found deficiencies in the data base used to determine the amount the ministry contributed to the subsidy of day-care centers. The comptroller also found that the supervision of work permits for workers from the territories was inadequate.

"There must be constant supervision to ensure that workers from the territories have permits for employment in Israel, that they are legally employed and that they have undergone security checks," the comptroller said.

She noted, however, that recent political developments would require a reassessment of the terms of employment of workers from the territories.

BATSEVA TSUR

Nation's drinking water below Western standards

HEALTH MINISTRY

RESIDENTS would be forbidden to drink water in many areas around the country if the drinking water was judged by Western standards, the comptroller rules in her chapter on the Health Ministry.

During the past few years, there has been "no tangible change for the better" in the authorities' treatment of water pollution and sewage.

More must be done to enforce existing laws to prevent pollution, and practical steps must be taken to protect the water supply.

None of several ministries responsible for water issues has yet produced a national map of water and sewage systems in the country to pinpoint potential sources of pollution, the comptroller notes.

The local authorities "are also criticized for their failure to conduct mandatory water testing. In 1992, 23 of them failed to carry out water testing as frequently as required; most of these conducted only a quarter of the required number of tests."

Water is chlorinated, but overuse of chlorine makes water not only unpleasant to drink, but can also produce carcinogenic compounds. If solid pollutants were filtered out, the amount of chlorine used could be reduced.

A year ago, it was decided to filter all drinking water by 1997, but the steering committee charged with this task has not yet decided who will finance the project.

The comptroller also urges that all the relevant bodies, including the Health Ministry, to set up a central monitoring system of underground water sources as an early warning against pollution of the water table.

In her examination of operating rooms in six government hospitals, the comptroller found inadequate maintenance or the total absence of several types of equipment.

At Hasharon Hospital in Petah Tikva, heating was inadequate in the operating rooms. In several government hospitals, emergency electrical systems for taking over during a power blackout are absent or non-functional.

At Poriya Hospital in Tiberias and Hildel Yaffe Hospital in Haifa, there are no systems for pumping anesthesia gas from the air in the operating room, leaving the surgical staff liable to be affected by it.

In her study of the control of dangerous drugs used in government hospitals, the comptroller found that supervision was inadequate, increasing the risk of misuse and even illegal sale of such drugs to patients. Sometimes, dangerous drugs were produced and dispatched by the hospital pharmacy to departments in two or three times the amount ordered.

Private lawyers were hired by a number of government hospitals to collect unpaid debts from former patients. Since 1988, these accumulated debts total NIS 50 million.

The arrangements for hiring such lawyers were found to be full of shortcomings: some did not wish to work beyond the expiration of their contract, while others did not sign commitments to keep medical information confidential. The comptroller urged that the whole system of using outside lawyers as debt collectors be reexamined.

JUDY SIEGEL

Law fails to cut down on special allocations

SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS

GOVERNMENT funding to non-profit organizations - many with political affiliations - continues to flow with little accountability, despite the criteria and oversight requirements set down in 1991 which aimed to eliminate the political favoritism associated with "special allocations."

In 1992, the allocations totaled NIS 1.164 billion. About half of that amount, or NIS 584 million, was distributed by the Religious Affairs Ministry to 1,928 institutions, while the Education Ministry provided 626 organizations with NIS 400m.

The comptroller found that the ministries' allocations committees still have broad discretion in granting the allocations, making it impossible to check whether the amount of money a particular institution received was justified.

The criteria applicants must meet vary from ministry to ministry and, in many cases, the institutions must meet very general or very

minimal requirements. The allocation committees do not provide information on what determines the size of the allocation and the weight of each of the different parameters for receiving the funds.

The comptroller notes that there is no public oversight of these funds, as the accountant-general neither provides the Knesset with a detailed list of recipients and the amounts of money they received, nor is such a list published for public scrutiny.

The ministries themselves do not oversee how the funds they distribute are being used and whether the information the applicants provide them is accurate. Government accountants only review applications to see whether all the documentation required is included.

Ministries have failed to coordinate between their allocations committees, despite the requirement to avoid duplication. As a result, the comptroller found much duplication between the Education and Religious Affairs ministries. In many cases, the two ministries are funding similar activities and institutions are receiving funds from both to finance the same activity. For example, the Religious Affairs Ministry

budget includes NIS 55m. for Tora cultural institutions and the Education Ministry's budget includes NIS 20m. for the same purpose.

Until the middle of 1993, the Religious Affairs Ministry continued transferring tens of millions of shekels to Tora institutions, based on their reported number of students, even in cases where the recipients did not provide documentation, including incorporation documents, and the allocations committee had not reviewed their application. In 1992, the ministry allocated NIS 427m. to those institutions, or 61% of its total expenses.

In a footnote, the comptroller points out that Agudat Yisrael's Hinech Atzma'i educational system and Shas's Hama'ayan schools were exempted from the 1991 allocations law.

The comptroller also criticizes the Defense Ministry for allocating NIS 1.6m. to a non-profit organization established by standing army soldiers to build a residential neighborhood in the Modi'in area. The comptroller states that housing assistance is not one of the areas included in the ministry's allocation activities.

JOSE ROSENFELD

Embassy in Moscow functioning poorly

FOREIGN MINISTRY

ISRAEL'S embassy in Moscow has been functioning so poorly that the country's links to Russia have been seriously weakened, the comptroller reports.

In the first year and half after establishing an embassy in Moscow, Israel lacked a deputy chief of mission, as well as commercial, informational, scientific and administrative directors. The last ambassador, the late Haim Bar-Lev, did not speak Russian.

Having a poorly staffed embassy in Moscow had political implications for Israel, the comptroller writes. It is a factor in the country's lack of strong links with the ruling circle around President Boris Yeltsin or with members of Russian parliament.

Contacts were so poor that the Foreign Ministry had to gather its information on Russia from the press, instead of relying on reporting from the embassy. The position of deputy chief of mission, who coordinates political reporting, was finally filled in April 1993.

The lack of political clout is compounded by financial mismanagement in the embassy, which lacks an administrative attaché.

When in June 1991, Israel decided to renovate the top floor of its embassy, which had been the ambassador's residence, in anticipation of the establishment of full diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, consul-general (later ambassador) Arye Levin was housed in a hotel suite that cost \$18,000 a month. This continued through Bar-Lev's tenure at least until January 1994.

DAVID MAROVSKY

Primaries reduce violations of political appointments law

POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS

THE Knesset passed a law two years ago aimed at fighting the widespread phenomenon of political appointments to senior positions in the civil service. The law - an amendment to the Civil Service Law - forbids senior civil servants from belonging to bodies that choose political candidates.

Soon afterwards, however, the law became more or less redundant because the Likud and Labor introduced the primaries system to elect political candidates. Of the major parties, the law now applies only to Meretz, which has four ministers and elects its political representatives by committee.

The comptroller found that all four Meretz ministers had hired workers or aides who had served on the electoral bodies of the Meretz components: the Citizens Rights Movement, Shinui, and Mapam. Most of the appointees resigned their posts on the electoral bodies, but others only suspend-

ed themselves. The comptroller said it was questionable that self-suspension from a party electoral body was sufficient under the law.

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish refused to terminate a contract with a consultant he had hired, even though an official committee established to consider conflict of interest issues regarding such appointments had ordered him to do so.

The consultant is a member of the Labor Party central committee; he is the director of a stockholder in a brokerage firm which also advises companies considering selling shares on the stock market.

The minister ignored the committee's decision on the grounds that it had not given the consultant the opportunity to defend himself; however, when the committee subsequently invited the consultant to appear before it, he re-

fused, claiming the hearing would only be a formality.

In another case, the comptroller found that the deputy director-general of the Employment Service was paid for hours claimed simultaneously in two jobs. All told, he claimed 481.5 hours of simultaneous work in two different public sector posts. The individual also appeared to have lied about his level of education and whether he took the required civil service exam.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer hired an office director, a member of the Labor Party central committee, from outside the ministry without first holding an internal tender, as required.

The director-general of the Association for Better Housing (Aguda Letarbut Hadityur) was retired several months before reaching age 65, under extremely generous conditions, to allow for the appointment of a new director-general. The comptroller found the new appointee did not have an academic degree or the experience



Harish ignored committee's order to terminate contract with a consultant. (Zeev Ackerman)

required by law. He was recommended for the job by Ben-Eliezer.

The comptroller also found that Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat appointed seven new directors to the board of Airplane Food Industries Ltd., which is jointly owned by the government and private investors. Three of the seven had clear links to the Labor Party.

The enlarged board of directors demanded the dismissal of the company director-general, who claimed he was being ousted for political reasons.

The comptroller found that the board of directors did not discuss the director-general's performance and found no fault in his work to justify his dismissal, raising suspicions that he was dismissed "because of his political leanings, which differed from those of a number of the directors," she wrote.

DAN IZENBERG

Working yeshiva students provided with illegal funds

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MINISTRY

THE Religious Affairs Ministry provided monthly funds to yeshiva for people who were supposedly engaged in full-time study, although some of them had part-time jobs.

"By comparing the status of students with figures provided by the National Insurance Institute, the comptroller found that between 1988 and 1991 the ministry was supporting institutions with thousands of students who declared that Tora was their vocation, even though [some] worked for pay," the report said.

The comptroller found that the number of students enrolled in

full-time yeshiva programs who worked at least four months a year and earned half the average national salary rose from 526 in 1988 to 1,308 in 1991.

The comptroller also found that the ministry is not doing the necessary checking to ensure that those who are working while at the yeshiva are not also being put on the lists of students submitted to the ministry for funding purposes.

Some 60% of the ministry's total budget is spent supporting Tora institutions. In the form of a per-student monthly stipend for each institution. In 1993, the ministry helped fund some 1,100 Tora insti-

tutions - including yeshiva high schools, women's seminaries, Hesder yeshivot, and kollelim (programs for married students) - which had some 119,000 students enrolled. The budget earmarked for this was NIS 504.6 million.

The number of students the ministry supported grew by 30.7% from April 1990 to April 1993, the comptroller writes. "This increase is more than three times the rate of increase in the population. The ministry did not check the reasons for this significant increase in the number of students."

The report also takes the ministry to task for a program it set up giving 100 kollelim three times the average monthly stipend for stu-

dents, as part of a project to train rabbis and rabbinical court judges.

Not only did the ministry not set up guidelines to determine which kollelim would be included in this framework, but it did not even try to make sure that the students - for each of whom the institutions received close to NIS 1500 a month - remained in the program. The comptroller found that 187 of 810 who enrolled had dropped out, but the ministry did not reduce its allocations accordingly.

The comptroller also examined the functioning of the Netanya Religious Council. According to the report, the religious council did not follow ministry guidelines for selecting neighborhood rabbis,

and "relatives of the two [local] chief rabbis served in this capacity before they had the necessary credentials," while another rabbi was selected for what the comptroller termed "political considerations."

The council was also found to be ignoring the ministry's regulations concerning the disbursing of funds. It did not come up with objective criteria to determine which institutions were eligible for funding, and did not supervise the use of funds by the institutions.

In addition, the report says that poor relations between the religious council and the local chief rabbis "severely damaged the religious services in the city."

HERB KEINON



STATE COMPTROLLER'S REPORT 1994

Elderly olim only receiving partial pensions

ABSORPTION MINISTRY

THE Mivtahim pension fund is paying elderly immigrants only a fraction of what they should be getting, despite the fact that it receives government funds to cover the entire sum, the comptroller reports.

The program for elderly immigrants was started in 1973 to provide pensions for newcomers from Third World countries who did not receive a pension from abroad and had not been in Israel long enough to accumulate one.

Although the program stopped accepting new members in 1981, it still provides pensions to some 2,300 immigrants, at a cost to the state of about NIS 1.5 million in 1992.

However, Mivtahim has been keeping much of the money for itself as "management fees," paying out pensions that are 30% - 55% lower than the real value of the accumulated moneys - and neither the Treasury nor the Absorption Ministry has done anything about it.

According to an estimate prepared by the State Comptroller's Office, in December 1993, Mivtahim was holding some NIS 48 million that should have been paid to pensioners.

One of the main problems, the comptroller notes, is that there is no written agreement between the two sides as to what fees Mivtahim is entitled to. The closest thing to such a contract is an unsigned draft agreement from 1984, which allowed Mivtahim to keep 12% of the pension moneys as manage-

ment fees. In Mivtahim's regular pension fund, however, management fees are only 4% - 5%.

The comptroller also blasts a Treasury program to train 1,000 immigrant engineers through a private company. The two-year program, begun in 1991, was expected to cost some NIS 12 million - considerably more than the cost of an equivalent training program run through the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry. The actual cost of the program was NIS 14.8 million for only 805 engineers, of whom only 580 completed the program.

Even worse, the company did not fulfill its part of the contract: to guarantee employment for three years to all successful graduates at the firms that provided their in-house training. Of those who completed the program, only two-thirds were given jobs; and only 48% of those who started the program were eventually hired.

Nonetheless, the Treasury has made no attempt to get the company to refund what it was paid for those participants who finished the program but weren't given jobs. The Treasury also made no effort to stop companies that did hire the engineers from firing them again, as happened in some cases.

The Treasury, it turns out, did not follow up on what happened to the engineers once they left the course. It was therefore ignorant of the fact that the contract wasn't being fulfilled until some of the fired engineers complained.

EVELYN GORDON

Complaints about late mail rise 80%

POSTAL AUTHORITY

ALTHOUGH the Postal Authority claims it is improving service, complaints from the public about mail that arrives days or even weeks late, is lost or sent to the wrong address continue to mount.

Complaints increased by 80% between 1989 and 1992, the comptroller found.

To test mail delivery speeds over a period of two years, the authority dispatched easily recognizable dummy envelopes. These were quickly picked up by sorters and given especially fast handling, while the rest of the mail went more slowly.

The comptroller also investigated the process of acquiring and fitting out the Postal Authority's new, NIS 80m. headquarters, an 11,500 sq. m. building near the entrance to Jerusalem, and found that the authority's council and management pursued these in a manner that "did not show responsibility with public funds."

The contractor and the building site were not chosen according to proper tender procedures. The company that built the facility was Heftziba, owned by the influential contractor Mordechai Yona, who also headed the group that built Tel Aviv's new Central Bus Station.

After deciding to build a new building in 1986, the authority examined offers by six contractors. The authority invited one contractor, "A" - who suggested a site in the Givat Shaul quarter - to a detailed discussion of the project. But the Postal Authority's works committee opposed moving to Givat Shaul, and management turned to contractor "B" (Yona), who suggested the site near the Central Bus Station at the city's western entrance.



Even though some members of the authority's finance committee were dissatisfied with management's comparison of figures that purported to prove that Yona's offer was the cheapest, the committee decided to approve the deal. Documents obtained by the comptroller were unable to prove that Yona's bid was the lowest. In evaluating the bids, the authority

did not always compare like with like, leaving out a number of important elements, which, if calculated properly, would have made Heftziba's bid more expensive.

Between 1988 and 1993, the authority signed nine different contracts for the purchase of space in the new building. The Postal Council, it turned out, had never discussed the operational needs of

the authority or estimated the amount of space it needed for offices, supply rooms, shelters, parking and public areas. Instead of purchasing the building at one go, it bought space bit by bit, significantly raising the costs.

In addition, the building was ready for occupancy several months after the date promised, but the authority did not demand

compensation.

The comptroller found many shortcomings in the hiring and payment of authority workers. Overtime payments were generously distributed to workers in some departments, sometimes on the basis of legal fictions. Unwarranted overtime was calculated at NIS 7.5 million in 1991 alone.

JUDY SIEGEL

Poor conditions prevail at caravan sites

ABSORPTION MINISTRY

THE report on the Absorption Ministry examines the upkeep of mobile home sites, the health and educational facilities provided to Ethiopian immigrants at these sites, and the issue of moving them to permanent housing.

The ministry took over responsibility for the sites from the Jewish Agency in September 1992, but failed to carry out in full its plans for improving them, the report says.

Many of the sites were built a considerable distance from established neighborhoods, creating a social gap between the immigrant and veteran populations and a concentration of "weak" elements in one area.

Physical conditions at the sites have been difficult since the start, due to poor-quality caravans and the fact that the residents were unfamiliar with this type of housing.

This combination "created problems of faulty upkeep and speeded up the deterioration of the housing," the report states.

The comptroller places the blame for the deterioration in the immigrants' living standards on the ministry as well as on the Amidor housing company, which has direct responsibility for the upkeep of the caravans.

In many cases, the immigrants have had to wait months to have leaking roofs, broken appliances or sunken floors fixed. The authorities should have planned to deal with these difficulties, the report says.

There are also serious problems with safety and security arrangements.

The report notes that 19 of the 21 caravan sites were hooked up to the national electricity grid even though fire officials had not given permission for this.

At the sites themselves, fire-fighting equipment is below par. Findings on the question of security arrangements have been sent to the appropriate authorities, the report says.

Educational facilities for the Ethiopian children are also lacking and there are too few day-care centers; as a result, toddlers have to be used to facilities, the report notes.

A special Health Ministry plan, drawn up to combat the high incidence of infectious diseases, including AIDS, among the immigrants, had not been implemented by December 1993.

BATSHEVA TSUR

Bungling keeps transmitters silent

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY

TOO many cooks spoil the broth, and the same is true when three bodies - the Communications Ministry, Bezek and the Israel Broadcasting Authority - are all involved in the transmission of TV and radio broadcasts.

The ministry is charged with purchasing transmitters and investing in new projects; Bezek operates and maintains them. But because the IBA does not have to commit itself in advance to cover the costs, many projects are canceled after much money has already been spent, the comptroller reports.

Planning of projects is often poor. As a result, some broadcasting facilities operate only partially, at low power, and radio and TV reception is bad in certain areas.

A transmission station was planned for She'ar Yashuv near the Hermon to improve radio transmission throughout the north. Construction of the station began in the early 1980s, but was completed only in June 1992.

The station functioned for a



week after the 13th Knesset elections that month; then operations were halted for a while and resumed for two weeks in August.

Because of a dispute between the IBA and Bezek over who would cover the operating and maintenance costs, the \$1.5m. station has remained silent since then, and northerners are still waiting for an improvement in radio reception.

A new TV transmitter was need-

ed atop Tel Aviv's Shalom Tower. It was purchased for NIS 550,000 by the ministry. But because ministry officials neglected to coordinate frequencies with their counterparts in Cyprus, Cypriot TV images and sound overwhelmed the new transmitter and interfered with its broadcasts.

Another example of poor coordination was the shortwave radio "curtain antenna" acquired in August 1989 for the Hillel station in the Sharon, at a cost of \$1.2m. Only in November 1991 did Bezek ask the regional council for permission to install the transmitter; this request was rejected out of fear that its electromagnetic emissions would endanger the health of area residents.

A year later, the installation contract expired. The ministry said it would monitor the electromagnetic emissions to see whether they were at permissible levels.

Five years after the facility was approved and four years after the transmitter was brought to the site, the ministry signed an agreement with the regional council permitting its installation. Radio listeners, however, are still waiting for it to begin operating.

JUDY SIEGEL

Interior Ministry should provide more services by mail

INTERIOR MINISTRY

VALUABLE time is wasted by clients and Interior Ministry employees alike during the issuing of identity cards, replacement of passports and changing addresses, since such services could be provided by mail, the comptroller says.

Clients must be served in person because the ministry has not explored other acceptable alternatives. The comptroller recommended that certain services be available via applications acquired at post offices, which would greatly reduce the hundreds of thousands of work hours wasted by people reporting to branches of the ministry.

During 1993, she noted, several branches of the ministry received the public three afternoons a week, in addition to their morning hours, saving untold thousands of work-hours.

The report also blasts the ministry's Fire and Rescue Authority for its use of outdated methods and

machinery. About half of operational vehicles are 15 years old; 22% are 16 to 20 years old and 27% have been in use for more than 20 years. The maintenance cost for these vehicles is high, because they require frequent repairs, including engine overhauls.

Some 463 school classrooms have been defined as "dangerous buildings" and do not meet fire regulations, but are still in use, the comptroller writes. Fire precautions in hotels were also found lacking. Fifty-nine out of 300 hotels surveyed were found to be fire hazards, and were operating without Fire Authority authorization.

The Fire Authority also lacks suitable equipment to deal with forest fires. In 1993, 893 forest fires broke out on 71,000 dunams of land, half of them caused by arson. In many cases, the assistance of IAF helicopters was necessary.

RAINE MARCUS

Publicly funded legal aid not available for many in need

JUSTICE MINISTRY

APPLICANTS must often wait months to receive publicly funded legal aid, and usually get poor service when they do, the comptroller writes.

The reason given for this is that the government offers low salaries, and only very few lawyers are willing to work with the program.

In 1992, only three lawyers took on all the legal-aid cases in the southern region, and a single attorney dealt with all applicants in the Galilee.

In Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, the average time that elapses between receipt of a request for legal aid and the applicant's first conversa-

tion with a lawyer is two months. In Haifa the average wait is three-and-a-half months.

The comptroller also attacks the system of determining eligibility for legal aid, with its cut-off point set - as of August 1, 1993 - at NIS 1,986 per month for a family of three. The comptroller notes that, often, people whose income is slightly above the cut-off point still have difficulty paying for a lawyer.

Another problem is that legal-aid offices refuse to help in financial cases involving tax or real-es-

tate problems, even though by law they are obligated to handle any case. The offices say this is due to budgetary constraints.

"If the Justice Ministry believes the offices are not capable of acting in accordance with the regulations, it has two options," the comptroller writes. "Either it can amend the regulations, or it must reconsider the resources [budgets and manpower] that it gives the offices."

But unless and until the regulations are amended, the offices do not have the right to refuse such cases, the report says.

EVELYN GORDON

No list exists for forbidden imports

INDUSTRY AND TRADE MINISTRY

THE Industry and Trade Ministry's food division failed to prepare lists of products that cannot be imported into the country, the comptroller reported.

Moreover, the division did not publish lists of products having import quotas or lists of foods which must be tested before they are imported.

The division, through its import restrictions, protected food products manufactured by local monopolies from competition with products produced abroad. The comptroller determined that the ministry does not have a permanent format to regularly update import levies in accordance with changes in international and local market prices.

Furthermore, the tariffs on some products have remained unchanged over many years because the ministry has failed to analyze and react to changes in market conditions.

The comptroller also notes that tariffs on wine, almonds and margarine are higher than necessary.

The ministry's land development division encour-

ages the establishment of industrial firms in development areas but is not meticulous about updating its computer system with up-to-date information on the progression of land allocation requests.

Many of the recommendations to allocate land without a tender were not based on the ministry's standard procedures. In some cases, the division's response to an entrepreneur's request to build was delayed from three to nine months, despite the ministry's policy to shorten the approval process.

The ministry's failure to charge an advance payment encourages entrepreneurs to submit requests for land development even before they decide to lease the land. Moreover, the development division decision to expand the number of companies entitled to receive land development subsidies was done without coordinating with the budget division.

Meanwhile, the ministry's financial division failed to implement proper accounting procedures, resulting in listing errors and possible waste of public funds.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

State overpaid compensation for winter damage

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY

THE government paid farmers millions of shekels in excess compensation for the severe winter of 1991/92, at times in violation of the law, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat reports.

The total cost of the compensation is expected to reach some NIS 400m., of which NIS 214m. has already been paid.

The law states that the government will compensate farmers for natural disasters, but only for crops that were insured. In practice, however, the Agriculture Ministry frequently approved compensation for uninsured crops.

The government also frequently paid compensation for acreage that was not even under cultivation. In some cases, it compensated farmers who had not even bothered to file insurance claims first.

There were also cases where the government was stuck paying the tab for unfair insurance policies. In the banana sector, for instance, the Fund for Insuring Natural Damages to Agriculture (Kanat) paid damages of only \$150 per ton, when production costs were more than \$300 a ton. The government paid the difference.

In response, the Agriculture Ministry said it was planning to change the law so that most types of damages would have to be covered by ordinary insurance, with the state acting as a secondary insurer for damages over an agreed-upon limit.

However, as of January 1994, the ministry had still not prepared the necessary legislative changes.

EVELYN GORDON

REPORTS IN BRIEF

Tax authorities go easy on Carmel Carpets: The Income Tax and Property Tax division agreed repeatedly to put off Carmel Carpets' purchase tax, value added tax and income tax payments over a two-year period, even though the concern failed to honor previous debt-rescheduling agreements, the comptroller reports.

Carmel Carpets' accumulated debt to the Income Tax Division reached NIS 85m. in February 1993. The comptroller specifically criticizes the arrangement reached between the Income Tax Division and the concern, in which the department agreed to spread the debt repayment over a six-year period at a low interest rate.

Galit Lipkis Beck

Poor management in Emanuel: The previous head of the Emanuel local council, the comptroller discovered, was also the manager of a private company that did work for the council. In addition, he headed a non-profit organization that was supported by the local council.

The report finds that from 1989 to 1992 there were substantial discrepancies between the council's budget and what was actually spent, and the amounts collected in municipal taxes were far less than the potential for revenue in the settlement. The council did not do everything it could to collect on water and sewage bills. Its books were poorly kept, with checks being written, in some instances, without a record being made.

Herb Keinson

Most Jerusalem sewage improperly treated: Jerusalem still does not have an effective sewage-treatment system, and effluents from the capital run into streams flowing westwards to the coast and eastwards to the Dead Sea, the comptroller reports.

An administration established in 1990 to construct sewage treatment plants has not taken any real action.

Jerusalem produced 86,000 cubic meters of sewage a day in 1992. The only existing sewage-treatment plant, built in 1979, can deal with only 15% of it. But even the treated sewage does not reach Western standards, the report notes.

Liat Collins

Environmental concerns ignored in construction: The public is unaware of the ecological consequences of many building projects around the country because environmental impact reports are often not required, the comptroller states.

Regulations do not insist on environmental reports before building begins on depots for explosives or fuels, road arteries, or entertainment and shopping centers. Housing projects built next to existing or planned industrial zones need not submit an environmental impact report, while industrial complexes in an authorized industrial zone can begin construction with just a building permit and no impact report.

Liat Collins

Railroad plans financially unsound: Strategies for expanding the railway system may not be justifiable. A NIS 1.1 billion budget was approved for expansion, even though no research was conducted to determine the best combination of highways and railroads was conducted, making it impossible to know whether the investment in the railways is worthwhile.

Raine Marcus

BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1994

Discount Investment reports
56% drop in net earnings

DISCOUNT Investment Corp. (DIC) completed the first quarter with a 56 percent drop in net earnings to NIS 21.2 million from NIS 47.9m. in the same period last year.

In the directors' report accompanying the financial statements, DIC chairman Raphael Recanat and managing director Dov Tadmor blamed the fall in profitability mainly on losses arising from the decline in the market value of the group's securities.

DIC's losses from the fall in the market value of negotiable securities

were some NIS 14m., while its share of related companies' losses from securities was about NIS 8m. DIC's share in the profits of its related companies fell to NIS 25.2m. from NIS 33.7m. The company's share in the profits of related companies in the electronics and communications sector fell to NIS 4m. from NIS 12m.

The directors said Scitex's profits suffered from a reduction in operating margins, while Elron's profits were reduced due to the

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

effect of the results of affiliates Elscint and Fibronics. DIC reported a loss of about NIS 2m. due to investments made last year in companies at the development stage.

DIC invested some NIS 6m. in its related companies, mainly in RDC, a joint company with Rafael and other companies in the IDB Group engaged in development of civilian projects based on the technology of Rafael.

DIC's gains from capital issues

of affiliated companies fell to NIS 10m. from NIS 17m.

The company's assets totaled NIS 2.1 billion at March 31, similar to the value of total assets at the end of 1993.

Last week the Communications Ministry announced that CellCom Israel won the tender for the second license to operate mobile cellular radio telephone services.

Cellcom was established by a consortium made up of the US-based BellSouth, the Safra Brothers from Brazil and the IDB Group.

Safra Group seen as
only Leumi bidder

GALIT LIPKIS BECK and JOSE ROSENFELD

A GROUP headed by banker Edmond Safra is expected to be the only participant interested in taking part in the tender to gain controlling interest of Bank Leumi.

Today is the deadline for participants to express an interest in the purchase of a block of shares representing 20 percent to 40 percent of the voting rights and issued share capital of Bank Leumi.

The only investment group so far to announce its intentions to participate in the tender is one headed by banker Edmond Safra.

He intends to gain control of Leumi through Republic Bank.

Sources close to the sale process say attorney David Rotlevi tried to organize a group of investors to participate in the tender but he has not received their agreement.

The tender was scheduled to close one month ago. MI Holdings, the government-owned company managing the sale of the bank shares, postponed the deadline to encourage the participation of additional investors.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said yesterday that if there is only one contender for the tender, it will not be canceled.

"There will be a professional evaluation of the bank's worth and if the offer is within those limits, I don't see any impediments to selling to someone," Shohat said.

He refused to confirm whether only one buyer stated his interest.

According to some reports, the government is considering alternatives, including selling the bank's shares to the public instead of a controlling interest.

Ben-Porat: Central bank
caused Mizrahi fiasco by
failure to check Ze'evi

EVELYN GORDON

THE embarrassing mishap over the attempt in 1992 to sell Bank Mizrahi - in which after the sale contract had been signed, the Bank of Israel refused to grant businessman Gad Ze'evi the necessary permit - was largely due to the central bank's lack of aggressiveness in checking Ze'evi's qualifications, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat said in her report.

The questionnaire that would be purchasers were asked to fill out, the comptroller notes, did not even include such basic questions as whether the buyer had ever owned a bank before or applied for a banking license.

Even worse, according to the comptroller, is the fact that the Bank of Israel did no independent research on Ze'evi - either through a private investigator or international databases - although it had done this for one of the other candidates.

Only three months after the contract was signed, when rumors began to spread about Ze'evi's questionable activities abroad, did the central bank begin to search international databases.

The Bank of Israel responded that in August 1991, when it first approved Ze'evi as a candidate, the information that later led it to deny him the permit would not have been available.

It also said that since Ze'evi had owned another bank (the Maritime Bank) since 1988, and it had been impressed by his activities in this context, it saw no reason to be suspicious.

Furthermore, Ze'evi had papers showing he had approval to buy a bank in the US, where the authorities generally investigate candi-

dates closely. However, the comptroller notes, a year passed between the approval of Ze'evi's candidacy and the signing of the contract; had the central bank been checking international databases during that time, it would have found reason for suspicion long before the contract was signed.

In response, the central bank said it would make greater use of international databases in investigating future candidates, and increase its cooperation with American banking authorities.

Another factor that contributed to the foul-up, according to the comptroller, was lack of coordination between the Bank of Israel and MI Holdings, the government company charged with arranging the sale.

For instance, the central bank insisted that any purchaser hold at least 26% of the bank for seven years, whereas the final contract said Ze'evi could dilute his holdings to 13%.

"Unless the Bank of Israel says otherwise," This formulation, which the central bank said it never saw before the signing, was interpreted by Ze'evi to mean that he would be allowed to reduce his stake; and Ze'evi's subsequent fight with the central bank over this issue delayed the granting of the permit for months - during which time the Bank of Israel discovered the information that ultimately made it deny the permit.

In order to prevent such a "misunderstanding" from recurring, the central bank said it would give prospective purchasers a draft of the final permit, listing all the conditions, prior to the actual sale.



Bezek chairman Moshe Haba (center) and managing director Yitzhak Kaul (second from left) hand a NIS 83,463,229 million check to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat (left), Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni (right) and ministry director-general Shlomo Vax (second from right) as a final dividend for 1993 - bringing the total for the year to NIS 120m. The dividend was the largest ever transferred to the government by a public company.

(Text: Judy Siegel; Photo: Tav Or)

Real wages to rise 2-6% annually

JOSE ROSENFELD

REAL wages are expected to rise between two percent and 6% annually until 1997, according to the Bank of Israel annual report to be published at the end of the month.

Agreements signed during the second half of 1993 with various unions in the public sector will push real wages 2% a year in the next four years, while the recently concluded contract with public sector engineers, civil service academics and technicians will raise salaries between 5% and 6% a year.

The teachers' wage pact provided a 10% raise last September, a 4% increase in April, 5% in September and 2% next May. In addition, they received a one-time pay-

ment of 20% of their salary last September.

According to the report, past experience shows that when public sector wages rise, they tend to pull up private sector wages with them. These upward pressures on private sector salaries have been moderated by high unemployment in recent years.

However, the bank expects that as the number of jobless individuals continues shrinking, wages will also rise in this sector.

Last year, overall wages edged up a real 0.5%. Business sector salaries rose 0.3%, while public

sector wages rose more sharply by 1.1%.

If construction sector wages, which increased by 4.7% last year, are discounted, business sector salaries actually dropped 0.4%.

The significant rise in construction wages reflected the replacement of cheaper territory workers with higher paid Israelis as a result of the closure.

Since 1989, real wages have fallen 6.2%. When adjusted for Israel's only, salaries have dropped 10.7%.

The reduction in salaries not only reflects the downward pressure of unemployment on wages, but also the large increase in the number of lower paying jobs.

Cabinet panel approves
Israel Chemicals issue

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE cabinet privatization committee yesterday approved the sale of 15 percent of Israel Chemicals shares via a private placement, the Treasury announced.

Although the government had intended to issue shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and other foreign exchanges, problems surrounding legislation to renew the Dead Sea Works' concession held up those plans.

To avoid further delays in the government's privatization schedule, the Government Companies Authority decided to proceed by means of a private placement. The sale is expected to bring between \$150 million and \$200m.

The government has already sold 25% of its holdings. With the sale of the additional 15% of its shares, the government will dilute its ownership to 60% of the company.

The Treasury plans to reduce the government's share in the company to 28%.

The remaining 32% will be offered to the public here and abroad when the issue of the Dead Sea Works' concession is resolved.

The authority will shortly publish a request for proposals to investors for the package of shares. Potential buyers will be judged on their capability to contribute to the conglomerate's management.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bank Hapoalim signs deal with Banca Di Roma: Bank Hapoalim has signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Banca Di Roma, the largest banking group in Italy. The banks plan to offer customers a wide range of banking services, taking advantage of local and international networks. The banks agreed to offer banking services using international networks in third countries. They will also establish joint ventures and set up investment and venture capital funds.

The agreement is in the framework of Banca Di Roma's policy to develop its international business by establishing branches worldwide and reaching cooperation agreements with large banking groups. Banca Di Roma, founded in 1992, has an international network spread over 20 countries, including:

State firms won't employ legal adviser for more than nine years: The Government Companies Authority announced yesterday that state firms will not, as a rule, employ a legal adviser for more than nine years. In exceptional cases, where the company's unique activities or the adviser's particular specialization warrants it, the company can request the authority to extend the appointment. The extension needs to be approved by at least two-thirds of the company's board and only will apply to the specific area of the adviser's specialization. All other legal work will be referred to an external adviser.

IAL, TRW present Hunter to US Department of Defense: The Hunter, a new unmanned aerial vehicle, was formally presented to the US Department of Defense by joint developers TRW and Israel Aircraft Industries. Valued at \$177 million, a total of seven Hunter systems, valued at \$177 million, has been contracted from TRW-IAL, with the final delivery date of April 1995.

Golan Fine Crafts Ind. to establish venture with IMC Europe: Golan Fine Crafts Industries, held by Golan Fine Crafts, will establish a joint venture with IMC Europe to market the subsidiary's products. Dutch-based IMC is 50% held by Maman and operates the Israel Trade Center in Rotterdam by agreement with the Israel Export Institute.

Darle Engineering to provide trucks for Rotem Fertilizers: Darle Engineering will provide, assemble and service four Komatsu-Dresser Hanpak heavy electric trucks to ICL-owned Rotem Fertilizers. The generator-driven trucks, valued at NIS 14 million can carry up to 170 tons, reaching a total weight of 280 tons.

Packer and Evrot Industries discuss venture: Packer Industries South and Evrot Industries are negotiating a joint venture for the manufacture and sale of metal pipes and profiles, as part of a potential merger. If confirmed, the deal will represent between 15% and 25% of parent company Packer Metalworks' activity.

4th Dimension Software names new chief operating officer: Avi Kohn, formerly vice president of technical services, has been named the new chief operating officer for 4th Dimension Software. He will be responsible for day-to-day operations under CEO Yossi Hollander. Kohn replaces Roni Einav, who remains with the company.

Iacocca due
for visit
next month

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

OUTGOING Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca is scheduled to visit here next month to meet with the Haifa-based Silicon Heights.

Iacocca, in partnership with business associate Allen Paulson - the owner of Laser Tech Enterprises - recently signed an agreement with Avner Sur, managing director of Silicon Heights.

Silicon Heights is the manufacturer of ControlLaser, an invention which helps drivers avoid collisions. According to the agreement, the product will be sold to Chrysler and the US automotive parts market.

ControlLaser is installed in the car near the windshield and gives the driver accurate information that until now could only be estimated by the human eye. For example, ControlLaser measures, with a laser beam, the distance and speed of the car ahead to tell the driver how much time he has to brake if the car suddenly stops.

Mishkan Mortgage Bank reports 22.5% fall
in first quarter net profit to NIS 9.1 million

COMPANY RESULTS

GALIT LIPKIS BECK and RACHEL NEIMAN

MISHKAN Bank Hapoalim Mortgage Bank reported a 22.5 percent fall in first quarter net profits to NIS 9.1 million from NIS 11.79m. in the corresponding period last year.

Profits from financing activities before provisions for doubtful debts fell to NIS 26m. from NIS 27.4m.

Provisions for doubtful debts increased to NIS 5.7m. from NIS 1.6m., mainly due to loans to the agriculture sector.

Leumi and Co. Investment Bankers reported a NIS 592,000 net loss, compared with a net loss of NIS 1.59m. in the corresponding period last year.

The bank blamed the result on losses of NIS 2.57m. from affiliated companies and NIS 2.74m. in losses from securities.

Arab-Israel Bank reported a 62.9% growth in net profits to NIS 3.6m. from NIS 2.2m.

Management attributed the improvement mainly to the 25.6% drop in provisions for doubtful

debts to NIS 2m.

PEC Israel Economic Corporation has announced a rise in net income to \$12.2m. from \$12m.

Revenues fell to \$14.1m. from \$18.4m.

Kitani has announced a 50% rise in first quarter net profits to NIS 12.9m. from NIS 8.6m.

Revenues were up 8% to NIS 133.7m. from NIS 123.7m.

The company said the upswing was the result of improved performance on the part of subsidiary companies and increased exports. Export activity rose 30% to NIS 19.4m. from NIS 14.9m.

Israel Steel Mills reported a 74% drop in first quarter net profits to NIS 204,000 from NIS 797,000.

Revenues fell 3% to NIS 57.7m. from NIS 59.7m.

Profits had been hurt by the local market being "flooded" by imports - grabbing up to a 25% market share - and the slump in construction.

The company said it met the challenge with competitive pricing, resulting in decreased revenues, despite a higher volume of sales. Gross margins fell to 7% from 12%.

Earnings per share decreased to NIS 0.004 from NIS 0.016.

Electric Fuel Corp., the zinc battery developer traded on NASDAQ, announced a first quarter

net loss of \$254,000, compared with a net loss of \$242,000 in the corresponding period last year.

Revenues dropped to \$908,000 from \$146,000.

The company attributed the increase to payment from the Deutsche Bundespost (DBP) in preparation for a field test of an electrical vehicle fleet.

In addition, a commercial regeneration plant was sold to Edison SpA.

Sano-Bruno has reported a 26% drop in first quarter net profits to NIS 1.7m. from NIS 2.3m.

Revenues for the cleaning products company dipped 1% to NIS 27.7m. from NIS 28.2m.

Per share earnings decreased to NIS 0.14 from NIS 0.19.

The company mainly serves the local market, but cited a 22.2% decline in exports to \$296,000 from \$380,000.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY



Awarding of the
Hugo Ramniceanu Prize in
Economics for 1994

The prize will be awarded to
Intel Israel

at a ceremony, to take place in the presence of
Mr. Dan Propper

President of the Manufacturers Association

on Friday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m.
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv

(Entrance by invitation only.)

Invest in the world's major exchanges
with Israel Discount Bank

It's a
Small
World!

ADAM KATZ TELERANK
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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Jerusalem Post
Computer Supplement

June 3, 1994

For advertising information, call:
Moshe Forman

Tel. 03-6390333 - Fax. 03-6390277

**Danger!!
Slippery Roads!**



DRIVERS BEWARE!

- * Slow down!!
- * Keep your distance!!
- * Avoid sudden braking!!

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Petah (foreign currency deposit rates) (18.5.94)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.575	4.575	4.575
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.500	3.750	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.125	4.000	4.000
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.875	2.875	2.875
Yen (10 million yen)	0.500	0.525	0.750

Shohat Foreign Exchange Rates* (18.5.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
U.S. dollar	2.2591	2.2680	2.83	3.07	3.080	
German mark	1.7849	1.8002	1.76	1.84	1.802	
French franc	4.4917	4.5650	4.38	4.63	4.518	
Japanese yen (100)	0.5232	0.5308	0.51	0.54	0.526	
Belgian franc (100)	2.8916	2.9221	1.57	1.57	1.572	
Dutch florin	1.8991	1.9218	2.83	2.86	2.872	
Swiss franc	2.1135	2.1433	2.07	2.12	2.111	
Swedish krona	0.2072	0.2072	0.28	0.27	0.288	
Norwegian krone	0.4143	0.4201	0.45	0.45	0.453	
Denmark krone	0.4622	0.4646	0.41	0.43	0.433	
Finland mark	0.5512	0.5580	0.54	0.47	0.490	
Canadian dollar	2.1722	2.2028	2.13	2.22	2.184	
Australian dollar	2.1783	2.2030	2.13	2.22	2.184	
S. African rand	0.8173	0.8298	0.67	0.61	0.623	
Belgian franc (10)	0.8722	0.8845	0.86	0.81	0.824	
Italian lire (1000)	2.5675	2.5934	2.50	2.52	2.514	
Jordanian dinar	1.8779	1.9043	1.83	1.84	1.872	
Egyptian pound	—	—	4.13	4.14	4.276	
ECU	3.4632	3.5120	0.98	0.91	0.916	
Irish punt	4.4074	4.4695	4.31	4.57	4.472	
Spanish peseta (166)	2.1735	2.2041	2.11	2.20	2.173	

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Representative Rates

ollar	NIS 3.0100	-0.03%
ng	NIS 4.5263	+0.38%
	NIS 1.8040	+0.23%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS

NYSE

Index	5,726.30	+12.28
Vol	1,142,000	
Adv	1,142	
Decl	1,142	
Unch	1,142	
High	5,726.30	
Low	5,726.30	
Open	5,726.30	
Close	5,726.30	

AMEX

Index	1,142.00	+12.28
Vol	1,142,000	
Adv	1,142	
Decl	1,142	
Unch	1,142	
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OTC

Index	1,142.00	+12.28
Vol	1,142,000	
Adv	1,142	
Decl	1,142	
Unch	1,142	
High	1,142.00	
Low	1,142.00	
Open	1,142.00	
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FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS

London	2,512.50	+12.28
Paris	1,142.00	+12.28
Frankfurt	1,142.00	+12.28
Stockholm	1,142.00	+12.28
Helsinki	1,142.00	+12.28
Tel Aviv	1,142.00	+12.28

COMMODITIES

Oil	22.50	+0.25
Gold	380.00	+0.50
Silver	16.00	+0.10
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.20	+0.02
Zinc	1.10	+0.01
Nickel	1.00	+0.01
Lead	0.90	+0.01
Platinum	1.80	+0.05
Palladium	2.50	+0.10

LIBOR RATES

3 months	5.50%
6 months	5.75%
12 months	6.00%
18 months	6.25%
24 months	6.50%
36 months	6.75%
48 months	7.00%
60 months	7.25%

US GOVERNMENT BONDS

3 months	5.50%
6 months	5.75%
12 months	6.00%
18 months	6.25%
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AC Milan European champions

ATHENS (AP) — Daniele Massaro and Dejan Savicevic tore Barcelona's defense to shreds as AC Milan powered to its fifth European Champions Cup triumph yesterday by crushing the Spanish title holders 4-0.

Massaro fired two first-half goals and Savicevic stunned Barcelona with an audacious, angled 30-yard lob two minutes after half-time. After Savicevic had hit the post, French midfielder Marcel Desailly scored the fourth in the 58th minute to finish the defeated Spaniards.

Milan's triumph made it an unprecedented double success for the city. A week ago, Inter Milan won the UEFA Cup by beating Austria's Salzburg in the final. No other city has managed to win two of the three European titles in the same season.

Massaro's first came from some clever work by Savicevic. The Croat began his torture of Miguel Nadal by slipping past the defender on the right and floating a center of the unmarked striker, who shot from home from wide of the goal.

The second came in injury time of the first half. Roberto Donadoni pulled the back into space from the by-line and there was Massaro to fire powerfully from the edge of the penalty area.

The game, before some 60,000 fans at Athens' Olympic stadium, was watched live on TV in 200 countries, a record for a European club game.

Robson named player-manager at Middlesbrough

MIDDLESBROUGH (AP) — Former England and Manchester United midfielder Bryan Robson was named player-manager yesterday of Division One club Middlesbrough.

Robson, 37, signed a three-year contract as the successor to Les Lawrence. Lawrence was fired two weeks ago after Middlesbrough finished ninth in the division, failing to qualify for the promotional playoffs one year after being relegated from the Premier League.

Palmeiro's hit streak at 19 in Orioles win

BALTIMORE (AP) — Rafael Palmeiro extended his hitting streak to 19 games and scored the go-ahead run in the bottom of the eighth inning as the Orioles beat the Red Sox 3-2 on Tuesday night.

Mike Mussina (7-1) pitched eight strong innings as Baltimore ended a season-high three-game losing streak. Harold Baines homered and had a key hit in the eighth, setting up Cal Ripken's go-ahead sacrifice fly.

Clemens (4-2) struck out 11 and pitched a five-hitter. He has a 1.02 ERA in his last seven starts. Tim Lincecum homered for Boston, which had its four-game winning streak ended.

Twins 5, Yankees 4
Host Minnesota stopped the Yankees' 10-game winning streak when Shane Mack capped a three-run rally in the eighth inning with an RBI double. Mack, who earlier hit an inside-the-park homer and a double, helped the Twins to a 5-4 victory.

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
New York	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	20	11	.646	0
Baltimore	22	13	.625	2
Toronto	19	20	.474	5 1/2
Detroit	16	20	.444	8 1/2
Central Division				
Chicago	W	L	Pct.	GB
Kansas City	21	15	.588	0
Cleveland	19	17	.529	2
Minnesota	19	19	.500	2 1/2
Milwaukee	17	20	.459	5
West Division				
Texas	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	17	19	.474	0
California	15	24	.385	4 1/2
Oakland	11	28	.286	10 1/2

England edges 1-day win over Kiwis

BIRMINGHAM (AP) — For the first time in a long time, England is the favorite in an international cricket match. That's not saying much for New Zealand.

"We'd like to ram the bookies' odds down their throats," New Zealand manager Geoff Howarth said as the tourists prepared for two one-day internationals on Wednesday and Sunday at Lord's.

England is suffering through one of its worst periods in decades, yet bookmaker Ladbrokes has made the home team the 1-3 favorite for the opening game with New Zealand at 9-4. That's because, after three weeks in the country, the Kiwis haven't exactly set the cricket world on fire.

New Zealand looked less than spectacular in drawing three-day matches against Worcestershire, Somerset and Middlesex. The team has fared better in one-day games, with easy victories over week over Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, though the game was a draw. The three England-Young left-handed spinners, Matthew Hart was impressive in the seven-wicket victory at Leices-



SON! — After scoring England's first goal against Greece, Darren Anderton (1) gets a lift from captain David Platt.

England triumphs over World Cup-bound Greece

ATHENS (AP) — A porous Greek defense allowed England to score three goals Tuesday as England continued its World Cup-bound team at Wembley Stadium.

Platt scored twice and Darren Anderton scored once in an England kit, but most of the scoring came as a result of defensive lapses by the Greeks.

England, on a slippery field in persistent showers, was the best setback for Greece as it prepares for its first appearance in the World Cup finals, which begin next month. The Greeks lost 3-0 to Cameroon in their last week and were booed off the field by the home fans after a scoreless draw with Bolivia on Tuesday.

England, which failed to qualify for the finals under manager Graham Taylor, is now 2-0 under Venables, leading a 1-0 victory over European Champions Blackburn two months ago.

Coach Alkis Panagoulis experimented with a new formation, placing regular player Christos Karamanis in place of regular goalkeeper Antonios Minou, a decision that backfired. Karamanis allowed Anderton to score in the 11th minute.

Karamanis dived forward and mishandled Greece's soft cross from the left wing, sending the ball into the path of Anderton for the

easy shot from 10 meters. Thirteen minutes later, Rob Jones stripped Athanasios Kolitsidakis on the right wing and fed Platt, whose short cross to Peter Beardsley was nailed home from close range. It was Beardsley's first England goal in four years.

Another Kolitsidakis error nearly let in a goal in the 39th, but Karamanis made outstanding back-to-back saves of Platt's drive and Alan Shearer's header. England added to the lead in the last minute of the first half after Ioannis Kalitakis brought down Shearer just inside the penalty area. Platt converted the spot kick to make it 3-0.

Platt got his second, his 23rd for England, 10 minutes into the second half after Anderton's shot, blocked by a charging Karamanis, rebounded back to Shearer. The Blackburn striker then looped a cross to Platt for an easy close-range header.

Shearer completed the scoring in the 65th with a curling 15-meter blast from the right wing, his first since returning from knee surgery last year.

The closest Greece came to threatening England's goal was when substitute Anastassios Mitropoulos was just wide with a long, powerful drive in the 75th minute.

The attendance of 23,659 was one of the smallest for an England international at Wembley.

Batboys exempt from labor laws

FRANK SWOBODA

TOMMY McCoy is back on the field this year for the Savannah Cardinals, having struck out the Department of Labor with a single pitch.

McCoy is a batboy for the St. Louis Cardinals farm team. Last year, he was tossed out of the game when a Labor Department inspector ruled he was working in violation of federal wage and hour laws. The nation's pastime lasted too long into the night, the inspector said.

This week, after more than a year of study, the Labor Department proposed exempting batboys, batgirls and their equivalents in all professional sports from the permissible hours and time standards for 14- and 15-year-olds. The exemption would apply if the duties performed are "traditional in nature" and the work is outside regular school hours.

Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich called the action a "common sense approach" to enforcing child labor law.

The proposal was part of a broader Labor Department proposal to increase fines for violations of child labor laws that result in death or serious injury and to take a new look at what may constitute hazardous jobs in today's economy. The Washington Post

Nuggets, Hawks stay alive; Rockets have edge on Suns

NEW YORK — The Denver Nuggets stayed alive in a heart-stopper, the Atlanta Hawks stayed alive with some breathing room, and the Phoenix Suns needed to be checked for a pulse.

In three distinctly different Game 5's on Tuesday night, three teams came away with 3-2 leads. Two — Utah and Indiana — missed chances to close out their series. Houston, meanwhile, continued its comeback from a 2-0 deficit.

The Nuggets beat the Jazz 109-101 in double overtime, the Hawks

Playoffs on Cable TV

Sports Channel 5 will televise Game 5 of the Chicago-New York semifinals to night at 10:30.

beat the Pacers 88-76 and the Rockets crushed the Suns 109-86. Denver's victory was the most exciting.

Both teams had chances to win before it reached double overtime. John Stockton barely missed an off-balance 10-footer from the corner at the end of regulation, and Robert Pack blew a 3-point attempt at the end of the first overtime.

That sent it into a second extra period, and Denver ran off the first seven points to silence the crowd at the Delta Center. Brian Williams scored the first two points on a dunk off a pass from Pack.

"At that point, we knew we had the momentum with us," Williams said. "We had everything going for us. We knew we could definitely do it."

Utah got within four, 103-99, on Tyrone Corbin's 3-pointer with 52 seconds left, but Jazz players forced their next two shots. Denver made its free throws in the final seconds to close it out.

It was Denver's fifth straight victory in a win-or-go-home situation. The Nuggets trailed Seattle 2-0 in the opening round of the playoffs, then won the next three.

They trailed Utah 3-0 in this series before winning two straight. "They have a lot of character and they have a lot of heart — they don't know when they're beat," Denver coach Dan Issel said.

Bryant Smith and Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf scored 22 points apiece for Denver. Pack and Williams added 19 apiece.

Karl Malone had 22 points for Utah, but the Jazz couldn't find another offensive weapon after he fouled out midway through the first overtime.



KEEPING THE LID ON — Atlanta's Jon Koncak and Danny Manning loom over Indiana's Haywood Workman.

Game 6 is today at Denver. Game 7, if necessary, would be Saturday at Salt Lake City.

Hawks 88, Pacers 76
Host Atlanta shut down Indiana with the kind of intense defensive effort they were missing in Games 3 and 4.

The Pacers shot only 35 percent from the field and were scoreless in the final 2:39 as they failed to get the ball into Reggie Miller's hands. Haywood Workman ended up 0-for-8 from the field and Byron Scott was 2-for-11.

Atlanta's Mookie Blaylock turned in his second triple-double of the series with 14 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds. He also had four steals and a blocked shot.

Craig Ehlo came off the bench to score 22 points and Danny Manning added 20 for the Hawks, who pulled away late in the fourth quarter. Game 6 is today at Indianapolis.

Rockets 109, Suns 86
At Houston, it was over shortly after

the Rockets had a pair of early 9-0 spurts, the second of which gave them a 27-13 lead in the first quarter. They opened the second period with a 10-1 run en route to a 59-37 halftime lead. By the time the fourth period was three minutes old, the lead was up to 32.

It was the first victory for a home team in the series.

"It may have been a blessing in disguise when we lost the first two games," Hakeem Olajuwon said. "We forced ourselves to come back together as a team."

Olajuwon and Otis Thorpe each scored 20 points and Kenny Smith led 16 for Houston. Charles Barkley led 30 for Phoenix, but Kevin Johnson was held to 10 points after scoring 39 in both Game 3 and Game 4.

Game 6 is today at Phoenix, and a victory by Houston would make the Rockets only the second team in NBA history to win a best-of-7 series after losing the first two games at home.

NBA Playoff Glance

Semifinals (Best of 7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Tuesday's result:
Atlanta 88, Indiana 76
Indiana leads series 3-2
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Tuesday's result:
Denver 108, Utah 101 (2OT)
Utah leads series 3-2
Houston 108, Phoenix 86
Houston leads series 3-2
Last night's scheduled game:
Chicago at New York
Today:
Atlanta at Indiana
Houston at Phoenix
Utah at Denver

Motta returns to Mavs, LA fires Weiss

DALLAS (AP) — Dick Motta, the original coach of the Dallas Mavericks, returned to the job Tuesday, hoping to restore respectability to himself and the NBA's worst team.

The Mavericks chose Motta, 62, as the successor to Quinn Buckner, who was fired two weeks ago after a 13-69 record in his only season.

In a record 22 seasons as an NBA head coach, Motta won 856 regular-season games, losing 863. He led the Washington Bullets to the NBA title in 1978.

Motta coached the Mavericks in their inaugural 1980 season, where he led an assortment of no-name

castoffs to a 15-67 record.

On the darker side, Bob Weiss, whose team finished with the worst record in the Pacific Division, was fired Monday after one year as coach of the troubled Los Angeles Clippers.

The Clippers went 27-53 this year and failed to make the playoffs after two straight appearances under Larry Brown, who resigned abruptly after the 1992-93 season.

A member of Philadelphia's 1967 NBA championship team, the 52-year-old Weiss coached Atlanta for three years and San Antonio for two.

Rangers shut out Devils to even series

NEW YORK (Reuters) — The Rangers erupted for three third-period goals to break open a tight game as New York evened the Stanley Cup semifinal series at one game each with a 4-0 victory over the New Jersey Devils on Tuesday.

Ranger goaltender Mike Richter notched his fourth shutout of the playoffs to tie a NHL record that had not been matched for 17 years.

Richter faced only 16 shots as his teammates allowed the Devils few good scoring opportunities after being berated by coach Mike Keenan for playing loose defense in Sunday's heart-pounding double overtime loss to New Jersey.

"We played with a lot more passion and emotion than we did in Game One," Keenan said.

The Eastern Conference finals now moves across the Hudson River for Games Three and Four in New Jersey today and Saturday.

NHL Playoff Glance

Finals (Best of 7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Tuesday's result:
NY Rangers 4, New Jersey 0
Series tied 1-1
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Toronto leads Vancouver 1-0
Last night's scheduled game:
Vancouver at Toronto
Today:
NY Rangers at New Jersey

Quality Classifieds

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Labor demands Histadrut No.2 spot and head of trade union section

THE Labor Party is demanding the No. 2 position in the Histadrut leadership and the chair of the trade union section, as part of a coalition agreement with Ramon's list.

This was reported yesterday by members of the Labor Party's Histadrut faction after a closed meeting on the coalition negotiations.

Outgoing Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld, who will head the negotiating team, announced he would remain the leader of the Labor Party's faction in the Histadrut. He emphasized that he is prepared to sit in opposition if the

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

negotiations with Ramon do not proceed to Labor's satisfaction.

He threatened that if any attempt is made to force him to advance the Histadrut convention to mid-June, he would delay or even suspend the coalition talks. According to the Histadrut's constitution, the convention should be called within three months from the first Executive Committee (Va'ad Hapo'el) meeting after the elections.

Earlier yesterday, local labor councils and trade union leaders established a forum,

which will discuss and formulate recommendations for the negotiation team. They expressed their support in Haberfeld's leadership and warned that should Ramon's list show signs of acting against the workers' interests, they would go to the opposition and fight from there for the workers' rights.

The trade union leaders and labor council secretaries blasted the plans to privatize large government corporations such as Bezek, Rafael, IAI and Israel Industries, noting that this process, which they stressed is an important principle in Ramon's Histadrut policy, must be stopped.

Joint List to join Ramon's coalition

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE leaders of the Ramon-Meretz-Shas list yesterday told the Joint Jewish-Arab List that its participation in the Histadrut coalition is a step toward the Communist Party's partnership in the government coalition.

This is the first time in 73 years that the Joint List, formerly the Communist Party, will be a member of the Histadrut coalition, and list sources said this will break the national taboo and legitimize them for future government coalitions.

Mapam chairman Hanan Erez said "those who are an important partner in the peace process must also be partners with equal rights in the government and decision-making process. The Joint List's

joining the Histadrut 'government' is an important precedent and a big step toward its joining the government coalition."

It was agreed at the meeting to hold elections for five labor councils in the Arab sector - Umm el-Fahm, Sahnin, Tamra, Rahat, and Tira - by the end of the year and to convert 16 labor committees in other Arab villages and towns to labor councils by the end of 1995.

The Joint List's Binyamin Gonen demanded closer cooperation with the Palestinian labor unions. Official recognition had already been granted, but hardly any contact between the Histadrut

and the Palestinian organizations was maintained. He also insisted on Histadrut support for the striking social workers. In this, he was seconded by Amir Peretz, of Ramon's list, who said he has already started acting on their behalf in the Knesset labor and social affairs committee.

Gonen also demanded that the Histadrut fight for the interests of the weaker classes, the below-minimum wage earning groups and unorganized workers. The Ramon representatives agreed, noting that the Histadrut has so far not functioned well in these groups.

Gonen's position in the Histadrut's trade union section has not been determined yet.

Merom refuses to rule that Ramon, Peretz and Avital have left Labor faction

DAN IZENBERG

KNESSET house committee chairman Hagai Merom (Labor) yesterday denied Michael Eitan's (Likud) request for a ruling that Haim Ramon, Amir Peretz, and Shmuel Avital are no longer members of the Labor Knesset faction.

The three were expelled from the Labor Party after they decided to challenge the party list in the Histadrut election.

Merom told the committee his denial was based on an opinion by Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar.

Inbar wrote that the two laws which have a bearing on the subject - the Political Parties Law and the Knesset Elections Law - do not stipulate that a member of a Knesset faction must be a member of a political party. They only stipulate

that there be a fixed procedure for choosing Knesset candidates.

Eitan had argued that the only law on the statute books which defines a Knesset faction - the Party Funding Law - stipulates that a faction must belong to at least one political party. Inbar, however, said this law is not pertinent to the status of the three MKs.

"Defection from a faction or the splitting of a faction are, above all, the concern of the faction itself," Inbar wrote. "I do not believe that any MK, any faction, or any Knesset committee has the authority to impose a split on a faction or to decide, against the will of a faction, that members have left it."

Peretz: Ramon faction agrees on Shohat's health bill compromise

DAN IZENBERG

LABOR and social affairs committee chairman Amir Peretz said the Ramon Histadrut faction has agreed to accept the compromise proposal on the national health insurance bill suggested several months ago by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat.

The faction's consent will likely pave the way for passage of the controversial bill within two weeks. The Labor Party has not yet confirmed that it will back the compromise, however.

Together with Likud, Meretz, Shas, Tsomet Yit'ad and Moledet, the Ramon faction could probably pass the bill without Labor.

According to the compromise, members of Kupat Holim Chalit will not be obliged to belong to the Histadrut, the entire health tax will be collected by the National Insurance Institute, and the health funds will be allowed to collect a 0.5% "human welfare" tax to finance social and other services.

The Labor faction opposed the compromise during the dramatic debate on the second and third reading in March - creating a deadlock and eventually forcing the withdrawal of the bill by Peretz. Then, however, the faction was being pressed by Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld to reject the compromise. With Haberfeld's defeat in last week's Histadrut election, the balance of power has clearly changed.

It is likely that the agreement on the terms of the bill will be one of the items under discussion in the Histadrut coalition negotiations now going on between Ramon's list, Ram, and Labor.

Peretz announced yesterday he would bring the bill next Tuesday for approval to the committee preparing the national health bill, and to the plenum for final approval no later than the following week.

Government to propose several amendments to strengthen laws against wiretapping

RAINE MARCUS and BILL HUTMAN

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Justice Minister David Liba'i decided yesterday to present several amendments to the wiretapping laws to the Knesset. The amendments will be drafted by the ministry, in cooperation with the police and the security authorities.

Police and security officials have said that tighter legislation is necessary. But they cautioned that such legislation must be carefully worded so as not to impede on the work of the investigators.

Liba'i said some of the amendments will be designed to help combat illegal wiretapping, some will strengthen protection of the individual's right to privacy, and some will aid in the war on crime.

One change, the Justice Ministry spokesman said, will be an increase in the penalty for installing an illegal wiretapping device to five years in prison from the current two years, and for listening to information obtained from an illegal wiretap from two years to five years.

Another amendment would empower a court to lift the license of a private investigator convicted of wiretapping.

Meanwhile, in the latest developments in the case which sparked the increased interest in wiretap-

ping, private investigator Rafi Friedman's lawyer Motti Katz, who according to yesterday's *Ha'aretz* met secretly with *Ma'ariv* editor Ofer Nimrodi in a Tel Aviv hotel room, refused to discuss the alleged meeting.

Despite repeated attempts to reach Nimrodi, he was unavailable for comment.

Katz would neither confirm nor deny that such a meeting took place. *Ha'aretz* said Katz and Nimrodi met just two days before Friedman testified in court that *Yediot* editor Moshe Vardi had wired the phones of former *Yediot* editor Dov Yudekovsky after the latter moved to *Ma'ariv*.

"For professional reasons I do not relate to any meetings or contacts that I had with representatives of either *Ma'ariv* or *Yediot*," Katz told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. "But the hint that the source of the Yudekovsky affair was *Ma'ariv* is a blatant falsehood."

Referring to Friedman's testimony, Katz said that neither one of the dailies knew beforehand what his client was going to say in open court.

Katz had objected to publishing the list of more than 200 people whose phones and cellular phones were allegedly tapped by Friedman and his partner, Ya'acov Tsur, because of the "potential harm it could cause to my client."

Yediot's petition to the court to lift the ban on publishing the list was followed by *Ma'ariv* and *Ha'aretz*. Friedman and Tsur have so far been charged with tapping three phones, but an amended indictment including additional charges will probably be presented during a remand hearing tomorrow.

The ECI-manufactured machine used to tap cellular phones will also be demonstrated in court. The machine, which the company and Friedman say was given to the latter for "experimental" purposes, can be programmed to record three cellular phones simultaneously, provided that the subjects are within a certain radius.

Although there is nothing illegal about the alleged meeting, a senior police source said that "we are taking notice of the story and will give it some attention." Friedman and Tsur are still refusing to tell police who ordered the wiretapping services.



Ernst Japhet leaves Jerusalem District Court after being sentenced yesterday.

(Israel Harezi)

(Continued from Page 1)

Finally, Naor rejected Arnon's argument that Japhet should not be penalized for having failed to stop the manipulation, because he sincerely believed such an act would lead to disaster. While many people were afraid of the consequences of stopping the manipulation, she wrote, it was

JAPHET

clear that continuing it was at least equally dangerous. Thus, if Japhet thought the authorities' plan for stopping it was a disaster, he was obligated to suggest an alternative. Japhet was convicted of

violating his duties as a bank manager, aggravated fraud, securities fraud, misleading customers and falsifying corporate documents. He will be subject to another two years in prison should he be found guilty of committing any of these crimes again during the next three years.

Jewish youths rampage through Old City, cause damage in Christian, Moslem Quarters

BILL HUTMAN

JEWISH youths rampaged through the Christian and Moslem Quarters of the Old City Tuesday night, causing extensive damage to at least one Arab-owned store, police confirmed yesterday.

"It was around 9 p.m., when I heard youths screaming slogans against Arabs running down the street," said Wael Yamar, 24, who works at a Christian Quarter barbershop.

He said he shut the shop's metal door, but the youths then tipped a metal pole from the door and began banging on it and demanding he come out, before continuing down the street.

The youths then broke the glass

front of a nearby antiques store owned by the Abu Eid family. A family member said thousands of dollars in damage was caused to the store windows and merchandise inside.

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby confirmed that between 15 and 20 Jewish youths waving an Israeli flag and chanting anti-Arab slogans entered Jaffa Gate on Tuesday evening.

A Border Police unit caught up with them once they were well inside the Moslem Quarter, and from there accompanied the youths to the Western Wall, Ben-Ruby said.

He said no arrests were made because police only yesterday found out that the youths had damaged at least one shop, he said.

Tuesday night's incident was the second in as many days between Jews and Arabs in the Old City. Jewish residents of the Moslem Quarter complained of harassment by Arabs, while Arabs accused the "settlers" of provocations.

An investigation into Monday night's clash between Arab and Jewish Quarter residents revealed that the Arab man injured was not hurt by a yeshiva student, but by another Arab resident, the police spokesman said.

MK to submit private member's bill to build casino in Eilat

HAIM SHAPIRO

ISRAELIS spend an estimated \$200 million a year in gambling casinos abroad, MK Avi Yehzekel, chairman of the Knesset subcommittee on tourism, said yesterday.

He told a subcommittee meeting that since coalition considerations prevent the government from establishing a casino in Eilat, he will submit a private member's bill to establish one.

Present at the meeting were tourism officials, foreign casino operators, Israelis who operate casinos abroad, and a representative of a group of Eilat residents opposed to a casino.

"Tens of thousands of Israelis leave money in casinos all over the world," Yehzekel said. He said that a casino would come here, the only question is when. His job as chairman of the subcommittee is to hasten its coming, he said.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said that the ministry had decided there should be a casino here, that it should not be in a hotel, but

rather part of a large entertainment complex. He said that the Knesset should enact legislation to prevent the negative aspects of such an enterprise.

Sheldon Adelson, chairman of the conglomerate which owns and operates the Sands Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, said that as he sees it, the object of a casino would be to attract tourists and lesson the flow of outgoing tourists, create tax revenues, and "bring black money to the surface."

Adelson announced that Nevada Governor Bob Miller is ready to come with his experts to advise the government on how to regulate the gambling industry.

A casino, Adelson said, should be part of an entertainment center with "family and adult" entertainment, as well as convention centers. Anyone licensed to run the operation should have expertise, a spotless record, experience in other tourism branches, and financial stability.

Peleg becomes peacemaker at environment parley in Tunisia

LIAT COLLINS

THE Israeli delegation to the "Mediterranean 21" environment conference in Tunisia became the peacemakers yesterday when a dispute broke out between the host country's delegation and representatives from most of the other 24 delegations.

The issue under dispute was whether to establish a separate committee to work on the question of sustainable development or whether to keep the work within the framework of the Barcelona Treaty for Environmental Protection.

The Israeli compromise, suggested by delegation head and Environment Ministry Director-General Israel Peleg, was adopted unanimously. Peleg suggested accepting the Tunisian demand for a separate Mediterranean committee to deal with sustainable development but to discuss the details and organizational framework at the next meeting of Barcelona Treaty members next year.

Mediterranean 21 is a plan to prepare a comprehensive program for marine pollution prevention, Peleg explained. "The Barcelona Treaty also deals with these issues, but there the Mediterranean aspect is only part of the treaty."

Lou Reed to appear with Peter Gabriel

US rock star Lou Reed will be joining Peter Gabriel for the WOMAD concert (World of Music, Art, and Dance) in Tabu on June 18. It was also announced yesterday that the show the following night in Tel Aviv will be a Peter Gabriel concert, and not a WOMAD show as previously publicized.

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The Israel Police requests the assistance of the public, in its efforts to trace a missing person, a Dutch tourist, Oscar Van Ommeren, who arrived in Israel on October 14, 1993, since when his whereabouts are unknown.

Description:
Age: 25
Height: 185 cm.
Build: medium
Hair: chestnut, long, smooth
Eyes: brown
Stance: stooping
He was carrying a sleeping bag and guitar
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